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# THE TIMES

The Chancellor's Budget speech in full, pages 6-8

## Income tax goes up 2pc with bigger allowance

The basic and higher rates of income tax are to rise by 2 per cent, an increase described yesterday by Mr Healey as an anti-inflation surcharge. Increased allowances will, however, take 400,000 people out of the range of taxation.

The married allowance goes up by £90 from £865 to £955 and the single allowance by £50 from £625 to £675. The allowance for single parents rises by £100 from £180 to £280.

A new scheme of family allowances, or child benefits, for all children, including the first, will be proposed with a view to implementation in April, 1977. The £1.50 weekly allowance will be extended to the first children of one-parent families.

The tax payable on medical insurance benefits supplied to employees, and on company voucher and holiday stamp schemes, is to be extended to cover all staff members, irrespective of earnings. That will not affect luncheon and meal vouchers

A ragbag of measures, page 23

## Some VAT rises

The 25 per cent rate of value-added tax will be applied from May 1 to most domestic electrical appliances, radios and television sets, hi-fi equipment, cameras, furs, jewelry, boats, aircraft and cravans. The basic VAT rate of 8 per cent is unchanged.

Worst fears realized, page 20

## Investment eased

Investment relief in the price code is being extended to cover investment for exporting. The rate is to rise from 17½ to 20 per cent. Restrictions have been imposed on the importing of gold coins, which are mainly Krugerrands

Welcome export measures, page 22

## Training boost

Training by firms, in government centres and in colleges of further education is to be accelerated. The Manpower Services Commission is to receive an additional £50m for the purpose. A temporary employment subsidy is planned to encourage deferment of redundancies

Preparing for the upswing, page 20

## Spending cuts

Public spending in 1976-77 will be reduced by £900m at present prices; the 1976-77 defence budget will be reduced by £110m, about 3 per cent to £3,690m and £21m will be saved by scrapping the mid-term census next year

Effect on defence plans, page 4

## Drink, cigarettes up

Greater duties increase the average price of beer by 2p a pint, whisky and gin by 64p a bottle, wine by 24p a bottle, cigarettes by about 7p a packet, and cigars and tobacco by varying amounts, according to weight. Bingo duty will be doubled to 5 per cent

Jobs may be threatened, page 19

## Subsidies reduced

Food subsidies will be reduced by £150m next financial year and housing subsidies by £65m. Subsidies on nationalized industry prices will decrease from £550m to £70m this year, and will probably be phased out. Overseas aid will be reduced by £20m over a period of two years

Dearer bread likely, page 4

## £15 on car duty

The annual duty on private cars increases from £25 to £40 and on motor cycles also by 60 per cent. The commercial rate rises by a third, with a minimum of £40 for general goods vehicles, and the taxi rate becomes £20. Petrol prices are unchanged.

Car ownership fears, page 4

## Gains tax relief

Capital gains tax relief is given to working farmers, small businessmen and owners of historic houses on the same lines as capital transfer tax concessions. Measures will be taken to stop the building industry abuse known as the "lump"

Plugging the loopholes, page 23

## Cautious welcome

On the London stock market, the Budget received a cautious welcome in the equity sections, where industrial shares moved higher. The exceptions were the tobacco, drink and electrical consumer shares, which turned down. The *Financial Times* index gained 5.2 to 305.4

Market reports, pages 24 and 26

# Budget slashes public spending and puts stiff restraint on taxpayers to curb demand

...a fierce Budget yesterday the Chancellor ...eased direct and indirect taxation and ...nounced planned cuts of £900m in public ...nding. By reducing demand (our Political ... or writes), the Budget itself could throw 20,000 people out of work. It was, Mr Healey said, part of the price to be paid for inflation at present levels. The Chancellor's two-and-a-quarter-hour speech was heard in glum silence by Labour MPs. Mrs Thatcher commented: "I have never listened to a Budget which put so much extra tax on the British people at one go". The effects of next year's cuts in public spending are expected to reinforce strongly the tax increases as a means of together cutting the Government's cash deficit by £3,000m in 1976-77.

## 'Part of price we pay for inflation'

...vid Wood
...al Editor

...Chancellor made no ... about it. Because the ... social contract is not ...g, in spite of some mini... claims, direct and in... taxation has had to be ...ed immediately and next ...al year cuts of £900m ...nned for public expend... And unemployment could ...ching one million by the ... Budget itself probably ...g 20,000 out of work ...cing demand.

...s", Mr Healey said, "is ... the price we have to ...r inflation at current ...

...ame to the heart of his ...n his peroration: "The ... I have presented today ...rd one for all of us in ... It is dictated by the ...cality of the world we ...

...evere Budget is a neces... ...ment in any strategy for ...ng the overall perform... our economy, which has ...gging increasingly be... ...st industrial economies ...e than a single genera...

...ed to the need for mea... ...produce the essential ...al changes in the bal... our economy are the ... we carry, with other ...s, because the explosion ... prices has cut our real ... by 4 per cent.

...n this situation the key ...mmediate success is the ... inflation inside Britain. ... failure here which is ...ble for the special ... of the Budget."

...e drove home the mes...d. "So long as pay and ...crease at their present ... Chancellor of the Ex... who puts his country ...ld act otherwise than I ...e this afternoon.

...situation would be very ... if through improve... in productivity and ...on in pay negotiations ...d substantially reduce ...ation rate. With lower ...ttlements and a conse... improvement in the ... of payments we could ... same standard of living ...er prices, lower taxes, ...e jobs.

...e same time we should ... sounder currency, a ... assurance of inter... credit, and a greater ... of that business con... which is a precondition ...vestment we need most.

...e is a better alternative ...tony road we have to ...t present. It requires ...ustained act of will to ... an act of will from ...o section of the com... ...on the shop floor, in ...d room, or in the home ...and aside.

...is Budget helps to con... British people of this ...vill have performed a ...n service to our nation ...re important than the ... of the problems which ...mmediate aim."

...an exceptional Budget ...t because it raised no ...n all from the back... or frontbenchers gar... the Government side of ...mons; and only an ...al ironic or even cynical ...om the Opposition side. ...um and non-committal ...f the Labour rank and ...ended an internal party ...sy when the Parlia... Labour Party meets at ...ster this morning to sit ...ent on the Chancellor's

The extended critique from the Opposition front bench will also come today when the shadow Chancellor, Sir Geoffrey Howe, opens the renewed debate, which will last until next Monday in the Commons. But Mrs Thatcher, ignoring her copious notes of Mr Healey's detail, showed that the Opposition is committed to a full-scale attack.

In a few minutes Mrs Thatcher set herself the task of demolishing all that it had taken the Chancellor two and a quarter hours to build. "I have never listened", she said, "to a Budget which put so much extra tax on the British people at one go. It is a typical socialist Budget, equal shares of misery for all."

She described the social contract contemptuously as neither contractual nor social, and delighted the House when she told Mr Healey that "when you shear sheep you stop when you come to the skin". She particularly complained that the increased personal tax allowances for single and married workers (£50 and £90 respectively) should have been £117 and £163 if they were to keep pace with inflation.

Mr Healey's Budget statement, though it gave just emphasis to the impact of rising oil and imported commodity costs, came near to sounding like an epitaph for the Government's social contract as he fulfilled almost to the letter Westminster politicians' expectations in terms of tax increases and public expenditure cuts.

In effect, he said, in 1974, the country was spending 5 per cent more as a nation than it produced, and there was now a danger that the gap could not be filled by borrowing funds without conditional strings.

Then he went on: "For the past six months or so the main cause of rising prices in Britain has been the scale of wage and salary increases, which were far in excess of what could be justified by the increases in prices, and could not possibly be offset by improvements in productivity.

"We in the Government have honoured our side of the social contract by our programme of legislation on industrial relations, by fiscal legislation to secure a juster and more equitable distribution of wealth and incomes, by action on food subsidies and rents, and by generous provision for the pensioners and others among the underprivileged in our society. ... The social wage now amounts to about £1,000 a year for every member of the working population."

Many in the trade union movement had worked hard to apply the TUC's pay guidelines. But pay had been running about 8 per cent or 9 per cent ahead of prices and "I do not believe that anyone would claim that the TUC guidelines were intended to permit this result."

Settlements so far beyond the increase in the cost of living were bound severely to restrict room for manoeuvre in the Budget, "and to limit the pace at which the Government can carry out its remaining commitments under the social contract." Gains from such wage increases were limited and transient; the losses enduring and widely spread.

Mr Healey dismissed a new resort to a statutory policy for incomes as unlikely to produce better results. But "unless the voluntary policy achieves

Continued on page 4, col 1

Mr Healey, Chancellor of the Exchequer, leaving 11 Downing Street yesterday to present his Budget to the Commons.

## It all depends on future pay settlements

By Peter Jay
Economics Editor

The Chancellor's formidable array of tax increases and spending cuts still leave much the biggest peacetime deficit in government accounts on record. The public sector's borrowing requirement, which would have been £10,256m before the Budget measures, will now be £9,055m, or more than a tenth of the value of the country's whole annual output.

The Treasury expects the measures to have a much smaller impact on the course of *production and employment* than the £1,200m cut in the cash deficit might suggest. By the end of this year the Budget will have cut back the total flow of spending in the economy by only about £330m.

In 1976 the effects of the cuts in public expenditure are expected to reinforce strongly yesterday's tax increases as a means of together cutting the Government's cash deficit by £3,000m in 1976-77.

At the same time the Treasury hopes that by the first half of next year a strong recovery of world trade will be stimulating British exports; that the capacity will be available to meet that demand; and that by that means the British recession will be eased and unemployment begin to decline.

In that way the Chancellor hopes, over a two-year period, to close the gap between the Government's income and outgoing, the gap between British overseas spending on imports and earnings from exports, and the gap between the demand for and the supply of labour at home.

As Mr Healey made very clear, the plan depends critically on how people react to the Budget, and in particular on the future course of pay settlements. If pay demands now increase, despite the demonstration that that leads only to higher taxes, in an attempt to restore the purchasing power which the Chancellor took away yesterday, then both *inflation* and unemployment will get rapidly worse.

The Chancellor estimated that, on present trends the rate of inflation could ease during the second half of this year to about 1 per cent a month, once the 2¾ per cent the Budget itself will add to prices has worked its way through, most of it in the next few weeks.

He also said that the balance of payments deficit this year could be cut by £1,000m to about £2,750m. That improvement, which depends mainly on a very slow growth indeed of imports as a result of the deep recession at home, will partly offset the effects of the Budget on output and employment.

The greatest interest to economists of the Budget strategy will be in the way the Chancellor has finally and totally broken with postwar economic orthodoxy, abandoned full employment as the sovereign purpose of the Budget, and decided that future stability of both *prices and the foreign balance* depend on achieving a better balance of the Budget itself.

Reaction, page 4; Diary and Mr Healey's dare, page 16; leading article, page 17; *Business News*, pages 19, 20, 22, 23.

**MARRIED COUPLES, WITH TWO CHILDREN NOT OVER 11—INCOME ALL EARNED**

| Income £ | | Charge for 1974-75: Income tax £ | Charge for 1974-75: Effective rate Per cent | Proposed charge for 1975-76: Income tax £ | Proposed charge for 1975-76: Effective rate Per cent |
|---|---|---|---|---|---|
| 1,300 | .. | 2.31 | 0.2 | — | — |
| 1,400 | .. | 35.31 | 2.5 | 5.95 | 0.4 |
| 1,500 | .. | 68.31 | 4 6 | 40.95 | 2.7 |
| 1,600 | .. | 101.31 | 6.3 | 75.95 | 4.7 |
| 1,700 | .. | 134.31 | 7.9 | 110.95 | 6.5 |
| 1,800 | .. | 167.31 | 9.3 | 145.95 | 8.1 |
| 1,900 | .. | 200.31 | 10.5 | 180.95 | 9.5 |
| 2,000 | .. | 233.31 | 11.7 | 215.95 | 10.8 |
| 2,500 | .. | 398.31 | 15.9 | 390.95 | 15.6 |
| 3,000 | .. | 563.31 | 18.8 | 565.95 | 18.9 |
| 4,000 | .. | 893.31 | 22.3 | 915.95 | 22.9 |
| 5,000 | .. | 1,223.31 | 24.5 | 1,265.95 | 25.3 |
| 6,000 | .. | 1,563.66 | 26.1 | 1,621.80 | 27.0 |
| 7,000 | .. | 1,979.01 | 28.3 | 2,052.65 | 29 3 |
| 8,000 | .. | 2 444.38 | 30.6 | 2,533.50 | 31.7 |
| 9,000 | .. | 2 959.71 | 32.9 | 3,064.35 | 34.0 |
| 10,000 | .. | 3 525.06 | 35.3 | 3,645.20 | 36.5 |
| 15,000 | .. | 6 695.76 | 44.6 | 6,906.90 | 46.0 |
| 20,000 | .. | 10,281.11 | 51.4 | 10,587.75 | 52.9 |
| 30,000 | .. | 18,451.81 | 61.5 | 18,777.11 | 62.6 |
| 50,000 | .. | 35,051.81 | 70.1 | 35,377.11 | 70.8 |
| 100,000 | .. | 76,551.81 | 76.6 | 76,877.11 | 76.9 |

The above table gives an example of the effects of the new rates of tax. Other specimen tables are on page 4.

## Pay 'free-for-all' fear

By a Staff Reporter

Mr Hugh Scanlon, president of the Amalgamated Union of Engineering Workers, said last night that the Budget proposals *might force trade unions to* settle wage claims outside the terms of the social contract to preserve their members' standard of living.

Speaking on BBC 2's *Newsday* programme, Mr Scanlon said that allowing unemployment to reach a million was contrary to the pledges made by the Government to the TUC.

"If I was settling afresh I would take very seriously the question of keeping within the *social contract*", Mr Scanlon said. "If the social contract is dead, we return to a free-for-all. ..."

Mr Scanlon called for direct negotiations between the TUC and the *Confederation of* British Industry, which is not a party to the social contract.

## Luxury goods sales boom expected until May 1

By Edward Townsend
and Roger Vielvoye
Business News Staff

Retailers are preparing for a boom in sales of luxury goods over the next two weeks but in the long term they fear that the introduction of multirate value-added tax on May 1 could seriously damage the livelihood of many shopkeepers.

Lord Redmayne, chairman of the Retail Consortium, representing all Britain's shopkeepers, said that although the new 25 per cent rate would apply to a limited range of goods he was concerned that its introduction would be the thin *end of the wedge* and might later spread to a wider range of articles.

"A multirate system is going to put a most considerable strain on the small retailer in the short term, *and in the long term* it may well put him at risk" he declared.

As a result of the additional administrative costs facing small shopkeepers, the Retail *Consortium* expects many traders to sell a variety of goods to delete those attracting higher rates of tax. That would restrict them to collecting just zero-rated articles and goods at the *old rate of 8 per cent*, and lessen the need to rely on professional accounting services.

Mr Richard Weir, director of the consortium, said, he would *welcome any move by the* Board of Customs and Excise to remove the "adverse discrimination against the small retailer by some form of fair assessment which did *not* involve him in this terrible bookkeeping".

Mr J. C. Butler, principal of the Multiple Shops Federation, said that if big stores had not prepared for an expected multirate VAT and programmed their computers accordingly they would find themselves in considerable administrative difficulties.

VAT has been increased from 8 to 25 per cent on most electrical goods, records, small boats and aircraft, caravans, furs, and jewelry. Mr L. B. Sherlock, sales director of Woolworth, said he expected a fortnight's boom in goods affected by Budget increases, and Mr Douglas Vallé, sales manager of Currys electrical retailing chain said the increase in VAT had *brought taxation back to the* situation when purchase tax was abolished. Already his shops throughout the country were calling for additional supplies to meet the expected rush, particularly *for colour television* sets. Stocks held by manufacturers in the electrical industry were generally good and he did not expect any difficulties.

Phonogram, the record manufacturers, while describing the new rate as "shattering", said they expected the market to continue to expand. The Food Freezer and Refrigerator Council, whose products all fall *within the new rate, said* the increase was a savage blow at the essentials of modern living.

## US defence chief tells Congress Cambodia is lost to communists

Dr James Schlesinger, the American Defence Secretary, told a congressional committee yesterday that "Cambodia could be considered lost". He said the Khmer Rouge had entered the capital and, although fighting continued, the outcome of the war was no longer in doubt.

An industrial suburb of Phnom Penh was captured by the communists. Earlier, conflicting reports about the capture of the capital's airport coincided with the insurgents advancing to one and a half miles from the city's outskirts.

The insurgents' radio claimed during the day that the airport had been captured, but this was denied by the Cambodian Embassy in Bangkok, which is in constant radio contact with the capital. The airport is vital because it became Phnom Penh's only means of obtaining supplies after the insurgents won control of the Mekong. In South Vietnam the United States Government ordered the evacuation of all Americans "not performing essential services there". About 5,000 Americans are still in what remains of South Vietnam. About 3,000 have already been taken out.

Page 10

## Pointers to new Kissinger round on Middle East

There are growing indications that Dr Henry Kissinger's Middle East peace mission may be resumed. Some of the secret "annexes" of the first disengagement agreement between Egypt and Israel suggest that there may be more common ground between the two sides than has been admitted in public. Because of the American preoccupation with Indo-China the actual timing of the next step forward is not yet clear. But it is known that both Egypt and Israel are prepared to try again.

Page 12

## Tube driver's high alcohol level disclosed at inquest

The body of Mr Leslie Newson, driver of the London Tube *train that crashed* at Moorgate on February 28, killing 42 people, contained more than the minimum amount of alcohol necessary for a successful prosecution under the Road Traffic Act. A senior lecturer in forensic medicine told the coroner that yesterday on the second day of the inquest. Dr Ann Robinson added that minute traces of alcohol had been found in a milk bottle contained in Mr Newson's work bag

Page 2

## Mr Michael Flanders dies

Mr Michael Flanders, who was half of the Flanders and Swann music and comedy team, died late on Monday night while on holiday with his family in North Wales.

Obituary, page 18

## Scala triumph

The superintendent of Milan's Scala theatre triumphed over a wildcat strike of scene shifters *and other workers by having* *Tosca* performed without scenery or costumes, before a mainly foreign audience

Page 8

**Ulster troop cuts:** Troop levels in Northern Ireland are to be reduced by about 500 2

**Actress's death:** Miss Mary Ure died accidentally from the effects of drink and drugs and there was no question of a suicidal overdose, the Westminster coroner decided 5

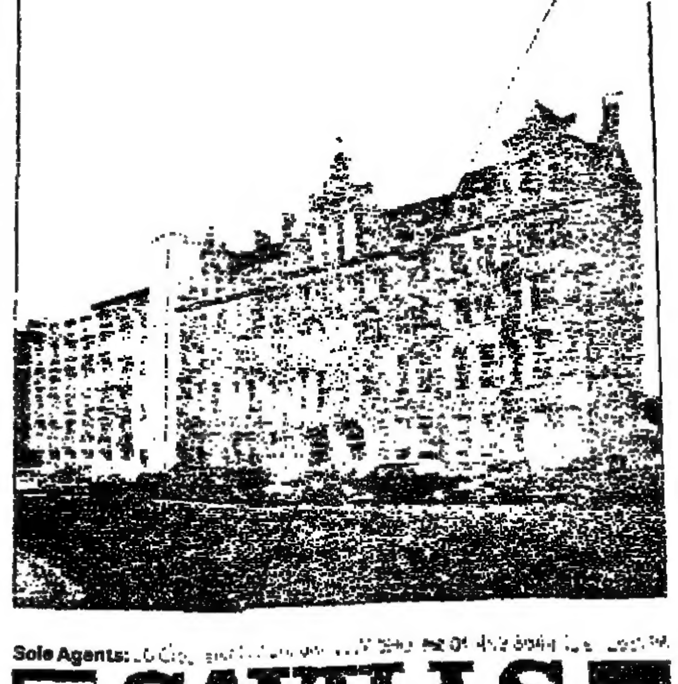
**Luxembourg:** EEC agriculture ministers reach agreement on turning wine into alcohol to end Franco-Italian dispute 8

**Cash plea:** British Leyland has asked for further financial aid on top of the Government's £50m in loan guarantees 19

**Tanker deal:** British Petroleum is to sell 10 of its 90 tankers to Iran. The sale could yield more than £30m 19







HOME NEWS

# Alcohol in Tube crash driver's body was over the legal limit

By Tim Jones

The body of the driver killed in the Moorgate Tube crash on February 28 contained the minimum amount of alcohol necessary for a successful prosecution under the Road Traffic Act, it was said yesterday during the second day of the inquest into the disaster, which killed 42 people.

Dr Ann Robinson, a senior lecturer in forensic medicine, said her test showed that the driver, Mr Leslie Newson, had an alcohol blood level of 80 milligrams of alcohol for each 100 millilitres.

Minute traces of alcohol had been found in a milk bottle in Mr Newson's work bag.

The evidence came a few minutes after Mrs Newson, the driver's widow, had collapsed after giving evidence in which she said that her husband was *a dedicated family man of* moderate habits. After the coroner, Dr David Paul, had asked her: "Do you know if he ever took a tot of spirits to keep the cold out at 4 am on a winter's morning?" she replied: "He never did. My husband did not like spirits. He did not like whisky or anything like that. All he liked was brown ale."

Earlier, she said he liked half a pint of brown ale after an evening meal but she could not recall his having had a drink the night before the accident.

Mrs Newson said that in their home at New Cross, London, they had a variety of drinks including whisky, Bacardi, Martini and Tia Maria. Her husband prepared his own work bag, she added. "I would always know when he was going out. I always got a peck on the forehead. He always gave me a kiss goodbye before he left."

Dr Robinson said that a blood alcohol level of 80mg was consistent with the consumption by a normal male of five single whiskies. Asked by Dr Paul whether she was satisfied that Mr Newson had taken alcohol, she replied: "That is the inevitable conclusion from my findings."

She tested samples from Mr Newson and eight of the passenger victims, Dr Robinson added. She discovered that the alcohol content in Mr Newson's sample was "significantly higher". In the kidneys, she found a blood and urine level of 105mg of alcohol in 100ml. When asked by the coroner to break that down to blood level, she replied: "Eighty milligrams per 100 millilitres."

Four of Mr Newson's colleagues said that on the morning of the accident there was no evidence that he had been drinking. He appeared quite normal. Mr Herbert Laing, a motorman, said: "Before he went on duty Mr Newson gave me some milk from his bottle for my tea. It tasted quite normal. There was no taste of whisky, rum or other liquor, but I only had a little drop."

Professor James Cameron, a pathologist, said there was no evidence to suggest that Mr Newson was suffering from any chronic ill effect of alcohol. A level of 80mg would not necessarily make a driver drunk, but it could have impaired him and slowed his responses. Alcohol could have made Mr Newson more susceptible to the cup of tea he had and to a condition called automatism, which could lead to his being affected by the flashing lights in a Tube tunnel. "He could be put almost in a state of trance, but this is speculation."

**Our Medical Correspondent writes:** The fact that the body was not recovered for several days makes interpretation of the raised blood alcohol a matter of speculation. Levels can rise considerably after death if the blood is not stored in a refrigerator.

**Speedometer lacking:** Mr Frederick Collins, a London Transport area manager, agreed that there was no speedometer for either the guard or motorman on 1938 rolling stock (the Press Association reports). The coroner asked him: "The only way a motorman driving 1938 stock knows his speed is by experience?" He replied: "Yes Sir."

Dr Paul then asked: "When you have a permanent speed restriction of 15 mph, as there is on the cross-over points at Moorgate, you are saying he can still only obey that by experience or educated guesswork?" Mr Collins replied: "Yes, Sir."

Mr Collins said he thought it would take a motorman or guard about two to three months to acquire the experience needed. During his 36 years with London Transport he could not recall a time when a guard had operated the emergency brake because the motorman had not slowed the train.

Mr Raymond Deedman, of Loughton, Essex, a motorman at Drayton, said he trained Mr Newson on the Highbury branch in January. If anything, Mr Newson was "over-cautious".

"Even after I told him about it he remained over-cautious, and this is a good quality for a motorman to have." If a motorman went over points at an excessive speed, there was a risk that the train might be derailed and a chance of the motorman's being thrown from the controls.

Mr Gordon Hafter, London Transport rolling stock engineer, said a computation had been made of the train's speed at impact. He estimated it as between 39½ and 40½ mph. If the train crossed the points at a high speed there would be much lateral acceleration, he said. If a driver was dozing at that point, he felt sure that would wake him.

During her evidence, Mrs Newson told the coroner that she believed her husband's application for a job as a bus driver had been rejected in [illegible] enough road sense".

**Report not available:** The medical evidence of alcohol in the drivers kidneys was not given in public at the Department of the Environment inquiry into the crash. The report did not become available until April 4. The public part of the inquiry was on March 14.

Lieut-Colonel Ian McNaughton, the railway inspector conducting the inquiry, attended the inquest yesterday and heard the new evidence, which he is studying. On Monday, the City of London Coroner said it seemed to be "putting the cart before the horse" to hold the inquiry before the inquest.

Miss Millicent Martin selling flags on Geranium Day for the blind outside the Vaudeville Theatre, London, yesterday. In 10 years the theatrical profession has raised over £4,000.

# Bath inquiry hears criticism of planners

From Our Correspondent
Bath

Bath's planners and the "shifts of thinking of local planning policy" were criticized by Sir Derek Walker-Smith, QC, at a public inquiry yesterday.

He was opening the case for a Yeovil development company, Bridafield, which has put up two schemes of over £2m for redeveloping 19 to 25 Grove Street, near Pulteney Bridge.

The company wants to demolish the riverside buildings and for the Secretary of State for the Environment to give a decision on its £2.5m scheme for shops, a public house, restaurants, flats and car parking. It is appealing against the council's failure to decide within the statutory period and its refusal to grant the necessary planning permission.

Sir Derek, who is MP for Hertford, said a speedy and decisive answer was needed from the Secretary of State because the credibility of town and country planning was at stake.

# New deputy for Sir Robert Mark

By Clive Borrell

The first move in sweeping changes in the organization of senior officers at Scotland Yard was announced yesterday, with the appointment of Mr Colin Woods as deputy commissioner to Sir Robert Mark.

For the past three years Mr Woods, aged 55, and a Londoner, has been in charge of the 3,500-strong Criminal Investigation Department. Formerly he was a uniformed officer in charge of the traffic department.

His appointment was welcomed by both uniformed and plain-clothes sections of the force, which during the past three years has undergone many changes under Sir Robert.

Mr James Starrit, the present deputy commissioner, retires on May 17.

Sir Robert Mark, who is 58, is expected to retire in two years' time, unless Mr Jenkins, the Home Secretary, who was instrumental in bringing him to London from Leicester, where he was chief constable, alters the rule that states that the holder of the post should leave at 60.

Mr Jenkins is known to want Sir Robert to continue long after that time while he completes the reorganization of the Metropolitan force. If such a change is made within the next two years Mr Woods stands a chance of taking over the force with which his father and four brothers were connected. Mr Woods, a superb administrator, will certainly be in the forefront of future changes within the force.

It is known that the role of the Special Branch is being considered both at the Home Office and at the Yard, and changes may mean that the commissioner will be directly responsible for its activities instead of the present arrangement, under which it is considered as just another branch of the CID.

The complaints department, known as A10, which deals with serious allegations against members of the 21,000-strong force, may also be subject to minor changes soon. The commissioner's appreciation of the way the department has purged the force of erring officers may soon be shown in several promotions and changes.

# Ulster troop levels to be reduced further

From Christopher Walker
Belfast

Further evidence of the widening gap between military and political thinking in Northern Ireland was provided yesterday with an announcement that the number of troops serving in Ulster are to be reduced by several hundreds by the end of the month. The last official count was 14,290 at the end of March, and it is likely to be cut by about five hundred.

Although the cuts will be restricted to drivers, maintenance staff and crews of a military helicopter squadron, the short and unexpected announcement from the Northern Ireland Office is being taken as further proof of a firm commitment by Mr Rees, the Secretary of State, to reduce the number of soldiers in the province.

The announcement follows closely on the weekend speech by Lieutenant-General Sir Frank King, the GOC, giving a warning that a further outbreak of Provisional IRA violence could be expected after the phasing-out of detention. Government officials last night were doing their best to play down the significance of the move, but by the end of the month, troop levels will be lower than at any time since the end of 1971.

The Northern Ireland Office said: "The reductions are in keeping with the present army profile, and if the need arises reinforcements can very quickly be provided." The announcement is believed to be connected with Lieutenant-General Sir Frank King's uncharacteristic attack on Saturday on government policies in Ulster.

Sir Frank, with several senior army colleagues, is thought to have argued strongly in private meetings against further cuts at present. The Government, on the other hand, is committed to a "planned, orderly, and progressive reduction" if there is a permanent cessation of violence.

Since internment began in August, 1971, troop levels have wavered. The total then was 10,422 and it rose to a peak of 21,688, at the time of Operation Motorman in July, 1972. Army concern would go some of the way towards explaining Sir Frank King's speech, which is known to have infuriated Mr Rees.

Few extra details were provided yesterday about the mysterious assassination attempt on Mr Rees by unnamed Protestant gunmen 11 months ago. Privately, officials in the information department expressed annoyance that Mr Rees had chosen to disclose even the bare details in public. It was recognized that without hard facts it was certain to be treated with scepticism. But it was felt that Mr Rees should have provided more information.

The attempt and the off-hand way in which it was disclosed may play a significant part in the campaign for the forthcoming Convention election. Launching his party's manifesto, Mr Gerard Fitt, MP, leader of the Roman Catholic Social Democratic and Labour Party, said yesterday that earlier he had had an hour-long meeting with Mr Rees. "I think he was rather shamefaced this morning", Mr Fitt said, "because he did not want to go into any details about the incident."

The SDLP, which has a vital role to play in the Convention, maintains that the release of the "loyalist" would-be assassin provides a reason for freeing the remaining 365 republican detainees. "If he found it possible to release a person who had attempted to kill him, there is no logical reason why everyone else interned without trial should not be set free", Mr Fitt said.

**Bomb victims buried:** The five people killed by a bomb in the Strand Bar public house, Short Strand, Belfast, on Saturday night were buried yesterday. More than a thousand people followed the procession to the republican cemetery at Milltown, where the Roman Catholic Bishop of Down and Connor, Dr Philbin, officiated.

**Jail escaper sentenced:** Kevin Mallon, who escaped from Mountjoy jail in Dublin in October, 1973, was sentenced at the Special Criminal Court in Dublin yesterday to 10 years' penal servitude (our Dublin Correspondent writes).

He was convicted of aiding and abetting another person to discharge a firearm at a police officer with intent to murder him. He was also convicted of six other charges arising out of his recapture after his jail escape.

All the sentences are to run concurrently and are to date from yesterday. The court was told that Mr Mallon was due for release in May, 1977, having been previously sentenced to four years' penal servitude on charges arising out of the Mountjoy escape.

For the state, it was said that on December 9, 1973, off-duty policemen in plain clothes were attending a dance in a motel in Portlaoise, when one of them recognized Mr Mallon, who was in the company of a girl, and approached him. Mr Mallon was caught and urged the girl to use her gun.

She pulled the trigger, but the breech was partly jammed and it failed to fire. It was fully loaded.

# Scots TUC gives support for Mr Heffer

From Alan Hamilton
Aberdeen

A publicity campaign against continued British membership of the EEC, to counteract what was termed the strongly pro-European bias of the media, has been called for by the Scottish TUC.

At its annual conference in Aberdeen yesterday the congress voted overwhelmingly against the EEC and offered congratulations and support to Mr Heffer, the minister dismissed by Mr Wilson for speaking in the Commons against the majority decision of the Cabinet.

Mr Clive Jenkins, general secretary of the Association of Scientific, Technical and Managerial Staffs, called on the Cabinet to reconsider its recommendation for continued membership in view of the strong reaction from the Labour movement and the country at large over Mr Heffer's dismissal.

Delegates also demanded that the referendum votes should be counted constituency by constituency so that the Government would be left in no doubt about Scotland's view. They also urged strict controls on pre-referendum propaganda, coupled with the closure of the Government's information centre on the White Paper.

Mr Jenkins said the EEC principally benefited international companies. He was proposing an emergency motion on the EEC couched in much stronger language than the original motion. Both were carried overwhelmingly, with the General and Municipal Workers' Union delegation showing the only significant opposition.

Proposing the original motion, Mr Jack Jones, general secretary of the Transport and General Workers' Union, said the issue of Europe and the necessity to secure a substantial "no" vote on June 5 was the most important to come before the congress.

Membership ruled out any effective socialist or national planning in Britain, because of the requirement for a free movement of capital.

The great danger was that if a Labour government wanted to bring in social measures faster and more fundamental than other EEC countries, big business could blackmail it by threatening to move capital to the Continent.

Mr Alex Donnet, of the GMWU, said withdrawal would lead to a lack of a viable alternative trading area, and would encourage increasing isolationism.

# Scanlon protest to Press Council over poll reports

Mr Hugh Scanlon said yesterday that he would complain to the Press Council over reports last week in the *Daily Mail*, and *Daily Express* on the election of a new general secretary for the Amalgamated Union of Engineering Workers, of which he is president.

The newspapers said first results in the ballot had shown a decisive majority in favour of Mr John Boyd, the right-wing candidate.

After a meeting of the Union executive yesterday Mr Scanlon said concern had been expressed over the "alleged result" of the election. The articles contained not a grain of truth, for the count had not been started.

# Manx inquiry into social security system

Manx MPs decided yesterday that there should be an investigation into the possibility of a breakaway from the strict reciprocity that has existed between the social security systems of Britain and the Isle of Man ever since the island set up its welfare state in line with the United Kingdom's in 1948.

Tynwald passed a resolution by 20 votes to 10 under which the Manx "Cabinet", the executive council, will go into the matter and report back. But it was emphasized that there was no question of breaking away on scales of benefits, only on scales of contributions.

The resolution was tabled by Mr Howard Simcocks (Independent) who said that the Labour Government was using national insurance contributions as an instrument of political policy aimed at the redistribution of wealth, and that it was a policy with which the Isle of Man would not necessarily agree. In order to maintain reciprocity increases were being rubber-stamped irrespective of whether or not they were suitable for the island.

Changes in contributions were being introduced in Britain that had not been envisaged in 1948. Social security was no longer an insurance club; it was a means of imposing direct taxation.

Mr John Bolton (Independent), chairman of the finance board, seconded. He said the direction in those matters now being taken in Britain was largely political, determined by a particular ideology. He added: "We are completely under control from outside and we have to rush around to pass orders and statutes to keep in line in the sacred name of reciprocity."

Mr J. C. Nivison (Independent), chairman of the Board of Social Security, opposed the move and defended the policy of earnings-related contributions. People who moved to the island from Britain to retire were able to bring their contributions with them rather than become the responsibility of the Manx social security system, he pointed out.

# New process will cut cost of treating sewage

By Our Science Correspondent

An important advance in the treatment of sewage will halve the acreage needed for plant as well as being cheaper to operate.

The plant that makes it possible has been invented by scientists and engineers of ICI's agricultural division. The details were made known yesterday at a conference of the Institution of Chemical Engineers at York, where experience with a pilot plant run in conjunction with the Northumbrian Water Authority was described.

A paper read to the conference emphasized the amenity and environmental improvements. The new process means that sewage treatment goes underground.

In what is called deep shaft effluent treatment, the operation is carried out in a shaft hundreds of feet deep as opposed to the large settling tanks of conventional works. Liquid is poured continuously into the shaft, which is divided into two sections. It is forced round by a stream of compressed air, which stimulates the growth of micro-organisms, causing natural biological breakdown.

# SNP will attack over Glasgow report

From Ronald Faux
Edinburgh

The Scottish National Party is to launch a new attack on the Government after publication of a report by the Department of Environment which named Glasgow as the most deprived area in Britain for housing, unemployment and overcrowding.

The report was derived from statistics included in the 1971 census. It discloses that Clydeside has 95 per cent of Britain's "1 per cent worst areas", and 68.1 per cent of Britain's 5 per cent worst areas". Clydeside has 4.3 per cent of Britain's population.

The purpose of the report was to examine what the 1971 census could show about the extent and location of areas of urban deprivation in Britain. It [illegible] clearly be politically explosive in Clydeside, where the Labour Party has ruled for more than twenty years, but where the SNP now lies second in nine of the 13 Glasgow parliamentary seats. It presents the most explicit survey of Glasgow's social deprivation yet published.

City councillors see the report as another blow to the city's prestige. Glasgow has run a big campaign to attract civil servants and new industry. Recently the city has been projected on national television and in the press as having a river filled with sewage and streets strewn with rubbish infested with rats after two long strikes by corporation employees.

Estimates put the cost of revitalizing Clydeside at £260m, but the Government has announced that that will be one of the immediate tasks of the Scottish Development Agency when it is formed. Sir William Gray, Lord Provost of Glasgow, accepted the findings of the report but said the situation had already changed since 1971 in both housing and unemployment. Because the report concentrated on those two issues it did not give a proper picture, and it also failed to suggest how such immense problems should be solved. It had told them what they already knew, he said.

**Our Planning Reporter writes:** The report, prepared in consultation with the Home Office Urban Deprivation Unit and the Department of the Environment, concludes that the national picture is dominated by Scotland, particularly Clydeside. Its cities are found to contain "areas of severe urban deprivation on a scale not matched in England and Wales".

# Telephone ban on private patients

Members of the National Union of Public Employees (Nupe) are to refuse to put through telephone calls to private patients in hospitals, Mr [illegible] in Portsmouth union's area officer, [illegible] Dunn, the Hampshire, said yesterday. The ban will not apply for East attack cases. [illegible] to heart-

Earlier, the Portsmouth and South East Hampshire Health District had refused the union's demand not to accept any more private patients. Nupe members will meet at Winchester today to discuss further action.

# Dearer motor insurance

Legal and General, one of the three biggest insurance companies in Britain, said yesterday that it is raising its rates for private motorists by an average of 22½ per cent from May 1. Premiums for commercial vehicles and motor cycles are unaffected.

Motorists who renew policies will continue to receive a £2 "loyalty" bonus.

# Legislation sought over access to a solicitor

The British Legal Association said yesterday that the case of Mr Peter Shilhan, released by the Court of Appeal from prison on Monday, demonstrated the need for legislation to make access to a solicitor a legal right for suspects held by the police.

The association is launching a campaign to press for statutory access instead of the present practice under Judges' Rules, and intends to use the Shilhan case as the centre of it.

Mr Shilhan was cleared by the Court of Appeal on Monday of setting fire to his own warehouse and trying to defraud his insurers. He had served nearly half of a four-year sentence.

Mr Jeffrey Gordon, for the association, said yesterday: "When the police called at Mr Shilhan's home he was sick with influenza, taken to the police station and, according to reports of the case, was refused the services of a solicitor."

The association, which represents more than 3,000 of the country's 23,000 solicitors, passed a resolution at its annual conference last weekend calling for action on the question of access.

# Teachers threaten to refuse big classes

Three thousand Scottish teachers may refuse to take charge of classes of more than 25 in primary schools and 20 in secondary schools from the summer in protest against alleged exploitation by local authorities.

They are members of the Scottish Schoolmasters' Association, one of three unions pressing for a conditions of service agreement. The claim also covers travelling expenses

**Headmasters' complaint:** The raising of the school-leaving age has caused apathy, truancy, violence and vandalism, according to the Headmasters Association of Scotland.

A report compiled from the replies of 200 of the 350 members of the association says 96 per cent of the headmasters criticized the political decision to raise the leaving age to 16 without first willing the means in terms of staff, accommodation and suitable curricula.

Among the report's recommendations are more money for teachers, lowering of the school-leaving age and a recruiting campaign for teachers.

# Diver 49 hrs in rescue chamber

An amateur diver, Mr Alan Wyman, was in the Royal Infirmary, Leicester, yesterday, recovering from decompression sickness or the "bends" after spending 49 hours in a lakeside decompression chamber while experts on the outside worked to save his life. Mr Wyman, aged 36, from Stafford, was said to be in a satisfactory condition.

He had been diving at Stoney Stanton Cove, and surfaced too quickly after getting into trouble. Mrs Biddie Benfield, a diving instructor, who spent the whole time in the decompression chamber trying to revive Mr Wyman, was also pronounced all right by doctors.

# Disruption at Wandsworth jail

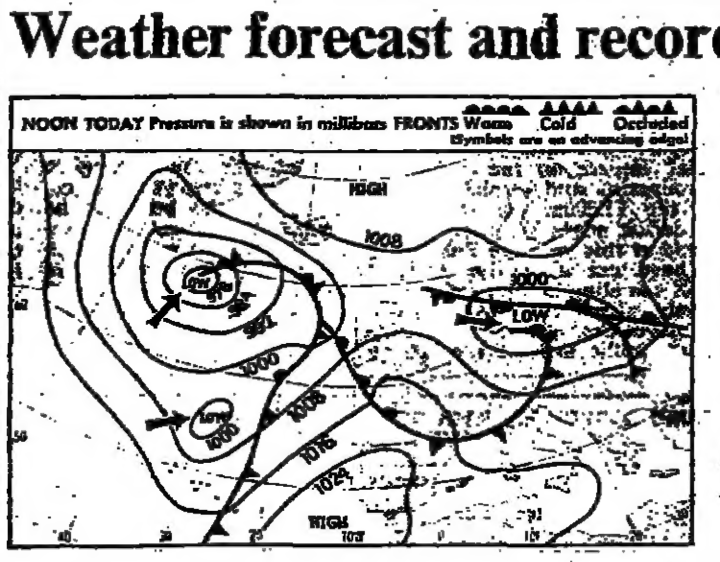
Fourteen prisoners due to appear in court yesterday did not go, as the result of another work-to-rule by about 200 prison officers, this time at Wandsworth. Fifteen prisoners due to be taken to other jails did not go, and all workshops at Wandsworth were closed.

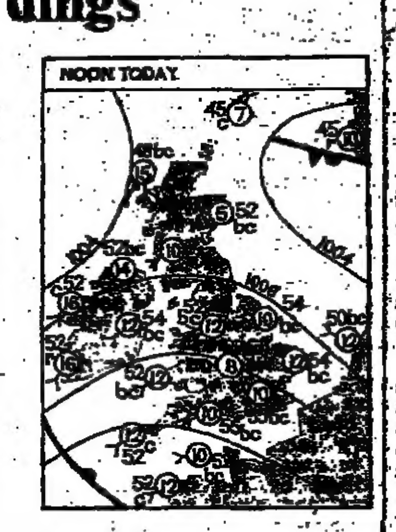
The stoppages, which have already interfered with routine at Ashford Remand Centre and Holloway and Pentonville prisons, are in support of a substantial increase in the £81 annual London allowance offered last month.

# Call to save herring

Scottish herring fishermen last night called for government action to conserve North Sea herring through a big reduction in the catch of young fish, especially by foreign fleets.

# Weather forecast and recordings




## Today

Sun rises: 6.4 am Sun sets: 7.58 pm
Moon sets: 12.20 am Moon rises: 8.44 am
First quarter: April 19.

Lighting up: 8.28 pm to 5.32 am

High water: London Bridge, 5.18 am, 7.0m (23.1ft); 5.36 pm, 6.9m (22.7ft). Avonmouth, 10.44 am, 11.9m (39.2ft); 10.58 pm, 11.9m (39.0ft). Dover, 2.17 am, 6.2m (20.4ft); 2.39 pm, 6.1m (20.0ft). Hull, 9.34 am, 6.7m (22.1ft); 10.1 pm, 6.6m (21.5ft). Liverpool, 2.28 am, 8.7m (28.6ft); 2.51 pm, 8.5m (28.0ft).

A ridge of high pressure will move E across most parts, and a trough of low pressure will advance towards the SW.

Forecasts for 6 am to midnight:

London, SE, central S and N, NW England, Midlands, Channel Islands, N Wales: Mainly dry, sunny spells, cloudy at night; wind W, moderate; max temp 13°C (55°F).

East Anglia, E, NE England: Perhap showers early, then sunny spells, clear at night; wind NW, moderate; max temp 11°C (52°F).

SW England, S Wales: Mainly dry, sunny spells, becoming cloudy, rain later; wind W, moderate, becoming SW, fresh; max temp 13°C (55°F).

Lake District, Isle of Man, Borders, SW, NW Scotland, Glasgow, central Highlands, Argyll, N Ireland: Mainly dry, sunny spells; wind W or variable, light; max temp 10°C (50°F).

Edinburgh and E Scotland, Aberdeen, Moray Firth, Caithness, Orkney, Shetland: Scattered showers at first, then dry with sunny spells; wind variable, light; max temp 10°C (50°F).

Outlook for tomorrow and Friday: Mainly dry with sunny spells in E at first but rain in W will spread E to most parts by Friday; temp near normal.

Sea passages: S North Sea, Strait of Dover: Wind NW moderate or fresh; sea slight or moderate.

English Channel (E): Wind W, moderate; sea slight.

St George's Channel, Irish Sea: Wind W, moderate, becoming S fresh or strong; sea slight, becoming rough.

## Yesterday

London: Temp: max 7 am to 7 pm, 14°C (57°F); min 7 pm to 7 am, 8°C (46°F). Humidity, 7 pm, 74 per cent. Rain, 24 hr to 7 pm, 0.2in. Sun, 24 hr to 7 pm, 1.7 hr. Bar, mean sea level, 7 pm, 1000.1 millibars, rising.
1,000 millibars=29.53in.

## 30-day forecast

The Meteorological Office yesterday issued the following forecast for the next 30 days: Predominantly unsettled weather with rain at times is expected during the first week or ten days, but that period is also likely to include a few sunny days. Later a warm spell is likely but will probably be followed by a return to cooler, changeable weather in most districts before the middle of May. Mean temperature and total rainfall are expected to be near average in all districts. Total hours of sunshine will probably be about average generally.

WEATHER REPORTS YESTERDAY MIDDAY: c, cloud; d, drizzle; f, fair; r, rain; s, sun.

| | | C | F | | | C | F | | | C | F | | | C | F |
|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|
| Algiers | s | 20 | 68 | Copenhagen | d | 3 | 37 | Locarno | c | 11 | 52 | Nice | f | 16 | 61 |
| Amsterdam | c | 10 | 50 | Dublin | f | 11 | 52 | London | r | 11 | 52 | Nicosia | s | 22 | 72 |
| Athens | s | 17 | 63 | Edinburgh | r | 10 | 50 | Luxembourg | r | 9 | 48 | Oslo | c | 7 | 45 |
| Barbados | s | 28 | 82 | Florence | f | 14 | 57 | Madrid | s | 20 | 68 | Ottawa | c | 10 | 50 |
| Barcelona | f | 16 | 61 | Funchal | c | 18 | 64 | Majorca | s | 17 | 63 | Paris | f | 18 | 65 |
| Belfast | f | 13 | 55 | Geneva | r | 12 | 54 | Malaga | r | 25 | 77 | Reykjavik | r | 5 | 41 |
| Berlin | f | 13 | 55 | Gibraltar | s | 20 | 68 | Malta | c | 14 | 57 | Rome | s | 15 | 59 |
| Biarritz | c | 15 | 59 | Guernsey | r | 9 | 48 | Manchester | s | 12 | 54 | Stockholm | s | 6 | 43 |
| Birmingham | r | 9 | 48 | Helsinki | s | 4 | 39 | Miami | f | 34 | 93 | Tel Aviv | s | 21 | 70 |
| Bristol | r | 12 | 54 | Innsbruck | c | 16 | 61 | Montreal | c | 9 | 48 | Toronto | c | 3 | 38 |
| Brussels | f | 12 | 54 | Istanbul | s | 18 | 64 | Moscow | c | 6 | 43 | Venice | f | 16 | 61 |
| Cardiff | f | 12 | 54 | Jersey | r | 10 | 50 | Munich | r | 11 | 52 | Vienna | c | 16 | 61 |
| Chicago | c | 11 | 52 | L. Palmas | s | 19 | 66 | Naples | f | 15 | 59 | Warsaw | c | 7 | 45 |
| Cologne | c | 13 | 55 | Lisbon | c | 16 | 61 | New York | c | 8 | 46 | Zurich | r | 11 | 52 |

Overseas selling prices
Austria, Sch 15; Belgium, BFr 25; Denmark, Dkr 5.50; Finland, Fmk 2.50; France, Frs 2.80; Germany, DMk 1.90; Greece, Dr 20; Holland, Dfl 1.75; Italy, Lire 400; Luxembourg, LF 18; Madeira, Esc 15; Malta, 9c; Norway, Kr 4.00; Portugal, Esc 17.50; Spain, Pes 35; Sweden, Skr 2.50; Switzerland, Sfr 2.50.

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Inland and Air Edition Subscription rates on request.

# Power engineers demand 31%

Leaders of the 30,000-member Electrical Power Engineers' Association told the Electricity Council yesterday that they expected to maintain their pay differentials by being given a similar increase to the 31 per cent won recently by the industry's manual workers.

The council made no offer, and the two sides will meet again next Tuesday week. The engineers, highly skilled workers, earn between £2,500 and £7,000 a year.

# Haircut protest by firemen

Kent firemen will answer only emergency calls from this morning in protest at an order by Mr Walter Babbington, the county's chief fire officer, to cut their hair short as a safety measure.

Fireman Peter Lee, regional secretary of the Fire Brigades Union, said there would be no drills, good will visits, exercises paperwork or fire-prevention work from 9 am.

# How much did Dunlop make for Britain last year?


No. It was all of them put together. £73,000,000 in exports.
£5,500,000 for belting and general rubber products. £6,000,000 for aviation equipment. £10,000,000 for sports goods, £11,500,000 for industrial hose. £17,000,000 for tyres and £23,000,000 for the other Dunlop products.

DUNLOP

THE BUDGET, 1975

# Mr Healey expects 12-month respite from borrowing international institutions' money

By George Clark
Political Correspondent

Mr Healey, Chancellor of the Exchequer, will tell the Parliamentary Labour Party at its special post-Budget meeting today that if, as he expects, international response to his package of proposals is not hostile, the Government should be able to get through the present financial year without borrowing from international institutions.

He expects to be able to raise money on the international markets from "unconditional sources".

Last night, giving a foretaste of some of the criticism Mr Healey will encounter today, Mr Sydney Bidwell, chairman of the *Tribune* group of MPs, said the Budget would be viewed with dismay by working people, and especially its implication that the Government is prepared to accept a rise in unemployment which could affect a million workers by the end of the year.

Mr Bidwell recalled that, in 1972, Labour MPs booed Mr Heath in the Commons after it had been announced that unemployment had risen to a million. Now it appeared that a Labour government was prepared to accept that prospect.

Mr Healey, although he did not get many cheers from Labour backbenchers, has pleased most of his colleagues with proposals for retraining workers and providing incentives for people to change jobs in anticipation of the upswing in world trade forecast in 1976.

Treasury advisers believe that the growth in world trade then will be much bigger than in the 1972-73 boom, and that the United Kingdom will be in a good position to benefit.

Left-wing Labour MPs believe that if the experts are so confident about 1976 it is wrong for the Government to put aside measures that would halt the tide of unemployment. The Chancellor's plan for temporary employment subsidies does not satisfy them. They believe it is still only "pie in the sky" and will come too late to prevent large-scale unemployment.

The powers to enable the Government to award employment subsidies is to be included in the Employment Protection Bill, now before the House, and the choice of the firms—some MPs are reviving the phrase "lame ducks" to describe them—that will receive help will be left to a Government committee to decide.

The aim as Mr Healey will tell Labour backbenchers, is not to provide featherbedding but to enable firms to retain their labour so that they have good prospects when trade brightens.

The Chancellor has been told that many firms with that kind of future have cash flow difficulties.

Special consideration will be given to firms with viable proposals that will lead to increased exports and help the balance of payments.

Conservative backbenchers thought that Mr Healey was moving to a much more realistic policy in curbing public spending, recognizing the value of private enterprise, and warning the trade unions of the consequences of wage settlements above the levels envisaged in the social contract. But there were some, including Mr John Biffen, MP, for Oswestry, who believed that Mr Healey was still refusing to face economic facts and relying on borrowed funds to an extent that would, in the end, bring disaster.

**Fewer pay tax:** Mr Healey said last night on television that if we tightened our belts now we could start moving ahead next year and we would be in far better shape then than at any time since the war.

He said he had taken 400,000 people out of tax altogether and more than nine million people would be paying less income tax.

Mr Healey opened his broadcast by saying that it had been "a rough, tough Budget". He did not expect anyone to thank him for it, but he would not have been doing his duty if he had dodged it.

## Chancellor says spending must be reduced

Continued from page 1

stricter adherence to guidelines laid down by the trade unions of their own free will, the consequence can only be rising unemployment, cuts in public expenditure, lower living standards for the country as a whole, and growing tension throughout society".

The Chancellor's Budget fulfilled the first instalment of that logic. Addressing the Labour rank and file, he rejected the advice that he should act to bring unemployment down: "I cannot afford to increase demand further today when 5p in every pound we spend at home has been provided by our creditors abroad and inflation is running at its present rate.

"I do not believe anyone in Britain would thank me for producing an even larger deficit on our balance of payments and injecting a further massive dose of inflation through price and wage increases."

The Chancellor did not shy away from the party critics he will face this morning. "A rake's progress of this nature", he said, "could not last for long. The patience of our creditors would soon be exhausted.

"We would then face the appalling prospect of going down in a matter of weeks to the levels of public services and personal living standards which we could finance entirely from what we have earned. I do not believe that our political or social system could stand the strain."

He said he presented his Budget to ensure that the British economy could take full advantage of the strong recovery in world trade that could be expected next year. A public sector financial deficit in 1975-76 of nearly £9,000m was inconsistent with his strategy and would involve unacceptable risks.

Hence, it was imperative to reduce both public and private spending and a sizable increase in taxation was unavoidable.

In general, the flatness with which Mr Healey's long Budget statement was received in the House reflected the fact that it sprang no surprises.

Some of the specific tax increases will be hotly contested when the Finance Bill reaches committee stage, especially the move to the multirating of value-added tax, with a higher rate of 25 per cent for some household goods that are no longer regarded as luxuries. In effect, Mr Healey is returning to the complications and anomalies of the defunct purchase tax.

The increases, on drink did not shock the House, and there was some evident approval of the deterrent increase of 7p on a packet of 20 cigarettes. But a sharp intake of breath could be heard in the Chamber when the Chancellor announced that excise duties on private cars would be raised from £25 to £40 a year. MPs seemed to take the 2 per cent increase in income tax easily in their stride.

## Bread up as subsidy is reduced

By Hugh Clayton

Spending on food subsidies is to be held steady for at least six months and then reduced in steps so that total expenditure next year will be cut by £150m from a proposed £420m to £270m. Spending this year will total £550m.

That decision means that the Government has decided not to protect shoppers against a rise of ½p on a large loaf, which is inevitable in May unless blocked by the Price Commission.

The Food and Drink Industries Council, which represents food processors, said it wanted subsidies to be eliminated gradually because they distorted markets. It therefore welcomed the cut in spending for next year, so long as it was distributed evenly among subsidized commodities.

The retail Consortium, which represents all but the smallest food shops, said cuts in subsidies would inevitably lead to higher prices. "We have no objection to subsidies and we should be sorry to see them reduced", a spokesman said.

The decision to peg subsidies while prices continue to rise will make the Government more concerned than ever to find other ways of holding down prices. Mrs Williams, Secretary of State for Prices and Consumer Protection, will soon meet retail leaders for talks about a new agreement to cut prices on goods that loom large in the shopping bills of poor families.

## Rise in car duty 'a sneaking uppercut'

The Chancellor's decision to raise the excise duty on cars from £25 to £40 evoked a swift reply from motoring organizations and the industry.

The RAC said the increase was a "sneaking little uppercut" by the Chancellor just when it seemed that he realized that motoring and the motor industry had taken such a beating recently that it was "hanging through the ropes".

The AA said: "Although not unexpected, the 60 per cent increase in the tax can only result in restricted ownership of personal transport.

Mr John Beswick, director of the Society of Motor Manufacturers and Traders, said: "We welcome the Chancellor's positive rejection of the absurd notion of two-tier petrol pricing and we are encouraged that he has acknowledged that the car is not a luxury. The Budget, however, will not help the industry through its present severe difficulties."

Excise duty on taxis was raised in the Budget statement from £12 to £20 a year, but Mr William D'Arcy, general secretary of the London Taxi Drivers Association, said the increase would not have a big effect on fares.

Owner-drivers almost invariably paid the private car rate anyway, he said, so that they could use their car privately as well as for business. Some of the big fleet owners would be affected, however, and they would have to pass on the increase.

Taxi fares will still be subject to value-added tax at 8 per cent, not the new higher rate of 25 per cent for "less essential" goods.

The Freight Transport Association said the increases in the duty on commercial vehicles—up in general by a third with a minimum rate of £40 a year—would cost industry more than £50m a year. "This, coupled with other increased operating costs, will be certain to increase the cost of both exports and impose a further drain on the housewife's purse", an official said.

Police Constable Michael Kearns making a Budget Day check on a suspicious object on a Foreign Office window sill overlooking 11 Downing Street, found it was a staff food parcel.

## Accelerated defence cuts may save extra £110m

By Henry Stanhope
Defence Correspondent

No decisions have yet been made on how the Ministry of Defence will cope with a further cut of £110m in the defence budget for 1976-77, but it is hoped that most, if not all, of the additional saving can be met by accelerating some of the cuts already announced by the Government under the terms of its Defence Review.

Ships could be phased out that much more quickly, the procurement of new equipment could be delayed or, most probably, the redundancy scheme for the three Services could be stepped up to reduce the ministry's wages bill.

The financial effect is to reduce the projected 1976-77 budget, at 1974 prices, from £3,800m to £3,690m, although after revaluation and adjustments the actual estimate will be higher than that.

But the psychological effect of Mr Healey's announcement could be much worse than statistics alone can indicate, partly because it comes so soon after the completion of the Defence Review which was supposed to obviate the necessity for short-term cuts of this kind.

The House of Commons Expenditure Committee warned the Government about the dangers to the efficiency of the Services last August after four short-term cuts, insisted on by successive Chancellors, had lopped £300m off the budget.

The Defence Review, by reducing Britain's commitments and taking a long-term view, was intended to put an end to such economies, for the time being at least. Now, less than a month after the Defence White Paper, the Treasury is at it again.

The Royal Navy might have reason to feel most depressed about the latest swing of Mr Healey's axe, because it seems increasingly unlikely that the Government will order maritime Harrier vertical take-off aircraft for the new class of anti-submarine cruiser like HMS Invincible, now being built at Barrow-in-Furness by Vickers.

That is in spite of the fact that the Harrier was already budgeted for in the Navy's share of this year's estimates.

The cut might also delay orders for the next sister to HMS Invincible. Three are provisionally planned.

## First step to allowances for all children

By David Leigh

Mr Healey's measures to help Britain's 650,000 one-parent families constitute a political milestone. But his deferment until 1977 of a universal child allowance scheme has caused disappointment. The practical impact of his measures on families was attacked last night by one poverty specialist as "a brilliant display of political cosmetics".

It was widely expected that first children of one-parent families would be awarded family allowances. First children have been traditionally excluded, but Mr Healey's announcement that £1.50 a week would go to this needy group in April, 1976, is a prelude to child benefits for all.

Child allowances for all, including first children, will not be introduced until April, 1977. Poverty pressure groups will now concentrate on achieving better levels of family allowance then, and a separate, special allowance for one-parent families.

Allowances were increased this month to £1.50 a week for second and subsequent children, but that did not restore their worth to the 1968 levels, and their value can now be expected to fall further.

On pensions, Mr Healey did not say by how much they will be uprated next autumn, after the increase this month to £11.60 (£18.50 for married couples). Help the Aged criticized this silence last night.

The second measure to help one-parent families is the increase in the additional personal tax allowance by £100 to £280 from June 14. That follows appeals from the National Council for One-Parent Families.

The fundamental criticism of the help to single families made last night by the Child Poverty Action Group was that family allowance increases were not apparently to be disregarded in reckoning supplementary benefit allowances. That meant that the 257,000 single-parent families on supplementary benefit would get no more in the end.

Although the increase in personal tax allowances will help poorly paid people, it will not compensate for inflation and its consequent "fiscal drag". The single allowance is to rise by £50 and the married allowance by £90.

## Reductions may affect home improvements

By John Young

The Chancellor's decision to reduce capital expenditure on housing by £50m will confirm the worst fears of local authorities, particularly in inner city areas.

Since new council houses are specifically exempted from the cuts, the axe is bound to fall most heavily on programmes for the acquisition and rehabilitation of privately owned houses. The immediate response of boroughs in inner London, and other cities with acute housing problems, is that they now have little choice but to demolish and rebuild.

The Association of District Councils last night welcomed the fact that council house building would not suffer, but regretted the reduction in capital spending which might well mean cuts in improvement programmes, land acquisition schemes and loans for house purchase.

The Chancellor's proposal for a consultative council of ministers and senior officials from central and local government is unlikely to cut much ice with councils, which feel they are being put in the impossible position of having to please both the Treasury and ratepayers at the same time.

## Mrs Thatcher finds no word of approval

By Hugh Noyes
Parliamentary Correspondent, Westminster

The economic literates sat shoulder to shoulder with the illiterates on the Government front bench yesterday as Mr Healey delivered a lecture on the damaging effect of massive wage increases in defiance of the TUC guideline that did wonders for morale on the Tory benches but raised not a murmur from the Chancellor's grim-faced comrades.

But the general air of gloom was more evenly distributed about the House as Mr Healey began to reveal one of the harshest Budgets in recent years.

In the past year the Commons have become hardened to the Chancellor's economic packages; this is the fourth in little over 12 months.

It was a powerful performance by the Chancellor, who spoke for two hours and a quarter. Mrs Thatcher, wearing black, made the traditional instant rebuttal of the Budget statement, and cut to the absolute minimum the usual congratulations to the Chancellor for his fortitude.

The British people, she said, to Tory cheers, had virtually come to the end of the greater taxation that they were prepared to yield up to the Government. Then, spotting a former Labour chancellor, Mr Callaghan, smiling benignly beside Mr Healey, she turned on him with a reminder that in those carefree days before devaluation he had summed up his Budget measures as keeping the ship of state "steady as she goes". The verdict of Mr Healey's Budget, said Mrs Thatcher, was "steady as she sinks".

Mrs Thatcher's comments included not a word of approval for any of the Chancellor's proposals and signalled a bitter three-day debate

There were whistles of horror as Mr Healey disclosed that public sector borrowing had risen to £7,600m, giving the Government no alternative to either massive increases in taxation or cuts in the expenditure programme already announced.

Mr Healey rejected reflation as an easy way out of unemployment difficulties.

Glancing frequently at the grim-faced *Tribune* group MPs beside him, Mr Healey got little reassurance. Indeed, at the end of the day, it seemed that the Chancellor was going to be badly in need of friends on either side of the House before the week was out.

## Scrapping of 1976 census will save £21m

By Stewart Tendler

The scrapping of the 1976 census will save £21m but leave Britain's planners to carry on until 1981 with statistics they feel are rapidly growing out of date. Yesterday the first response from town halls was one of regret.

Some local authorities may consider having their own miniature censuses. Under the provisions of the Census Act of 1920, the Office of Population Censuses and Surveys can undertake individual censuses, but local authorities must bear the cost.

The decision to hold what would have been Britain's first full quinquennial census was announced last December

Representatives of every local authority in the country and almost every Whitehall department argued that the full census was needed because planners were finding that change in Britain had accelerated to outpace a census every decade.

Up-to-date figures were needed to cover planning for schools, jobs, transport and housing, and planners maintained that decisions were being taken on old information.

That argument was reflected in the White Paper on the census in February. It noted that: "Without a mid-term census in 1976, decisions by government and by local authorities as far ahead as 1982-83 would have to be based on information collected in 1971. This would not be satisfactory."

## Mr Murray fears more unemployment

By a Staff Reporter

Mr Len Murray, general secretary of the TUC, said last night that the Budget would disappoint trade unionists because it did nothing to prevent higher unemployment next winter.

He welcomed features of the Budget that "will go some way to help improve social equity and will, in time, improve Britain's economic performance". But he did not believe Britain's difficulties could be overcome by passive acceptance of higher unemployment.

The difficulties could be tackled only by people at work, and the message the TUC would carry to the Chancellor and other ministers would be that "we can only work our way out of our economic problems".

Mr Jack Jones, general secretary of the Transport and General Workers' Union, said in Aberdeen last night that the Budget was good in parts but was disappointing overall. It contained measures that were themselves inflationary.

## Extra tax on new Morning Cloud

The Chancellor's decision to increase value-added tax to 25 per cent on non-essential goods, including boats, will add to Mr Heath's bill for his new Morning Cloud.

Until yesterday the expected cost was about £55,000, but the VAT increase will take it into the £70,000 range.

## Examples of effect on income tax of new rates

SINGLE PERSONS—INCOME ALL EARNED

| Income £ | Charge for 1974-75 Income tax £ | Charge for 1974-75 Effective rate Per cent | Proposed charge for 1975-76 Income tax £ | Proposed charge for 1975-76 Effective rate Per cent |
|---|---|---|---|---|
| 700 | 24.75 | 3.5 | 8.75 | 1.3 |
| 800 | 57.75 | 7.2 | 43.75 | 5.5 |
| 900 | 90.75 | 10.1 | 78.75 | 8.8 |
| 1,000 | 123.75 | 12.4 | 113.75 | 11.4 |
| 1,100 | 156.75 | 14.3 | 148.75 | 13.5 |
| 1,200 | 189.75 | 15.8 | 183.75 | 15.3 |
| 1,300 | 222.75 | 17.1 | 218.75 | 16.8 |
| 1,400 | 255.75 | 18.3 | 253.75 | 18.1 |
| 1,500 | 288.75 | 19.3 | 288.75 | 19.3 |
| 1,600 | 321.75 | 20.1 | 323.75 | 20.2 |
| 1,700 | 354.75 | 20.9 | 358.75 | 21.1 |
| 1,800 | 387.75 | 21.5 | 393.75 | 21.9 |
| 1,900 | 420.75 | 22.1 | 428.75 | 22.6 |
| 2,000 | 453.75 | 22.7 | 463.75 | 23.2 |
| 2,500 | 618.75 | 24.8 | 638.75 | 25.6 |
| 3,000 | 783.75 | 26.1 | 813.75 | 27.1 |
| 4,000 | 1,113.75 | 27.8 | 1,163.75 | 29.1 |
| 5,000 | [illegible] | 28.9 | [illegible] | 30.3 |
| 6,000 | [illegible] | 30.6 | [illegible] | 32.0 |
| 7,000 | [illegible] | 32.6 | 2,387.50 | 34.1 |
| 8,000 | [illegible] | 34.8 | [illegible] | 36.3 |
| 9,000 | 3,332.50 | 37.0 | 3,470.00 | 38.6 |
| 10,000 | 3,912.50 | 39.1 | 4,070.00 | 40.7 |
| 15,000 | 7,150.00 | 47.7 | 7,412.50 | 49.4 |
| 20,000 | 10,768.75 | 53.8 | 11,118.75 | 55.6 |
| 30,000 | 19,006.25 | 63.4 | 19,364.75 | 64.5 |
| 50,000 | [illegible] | 71.2 | [illegible] | 71.9 |
| 100,000 | 77,106.25 | 77.1 | 77,464.75 | 77.5 |

SINGLE PERSONS—INCOME ALL FROM INVESTMENTS

| Income £ | Charge for 1974-75 Income tax £ | Charge for 1974-75 Effective rate Per cent | Proposed charge for 1975-76 Income tax £ | Proposed charge for 1975-76 Effective rate Per cent |
|---|---|---|---|---|
| 700 | 24.75 | 3.5 | 8.75 | 1.3 |
| 800 | 57.75 | 7.2 | 45.75 | 5.5 |
| 900 | 90.75 | 10.1 | 78.75 | 8.8 |
| 1,000 | 125.75 | [illegible] | 113.75 | 11.4 |
| 1,100 | 166.75 | [illegible] | [illegible] | [illegible] |
| [illegible] | [illegible] | [illegible] | [illegible] | [illegible] |

MARRIED COUPLES—INCOME ALL EARNED

| Income £ | Charge for 1974-75 Income tax £ | Charge for 1974-75 Effective rate Per cent | Proposed charge for 1975-76 Income tax £ | Proposed charge for 1975-76 Effective rate Per cent |
|---|---|---|---|---|
| 900 | 11.55 | 1.3 | — | — |
| 1,000 | 44.55 | 4.5 | 15.75 | 1.6 |
| 1,100 | 77.55 | 7.1 | 50.75 | 4.6 |
| 1,200 | 110.55 | 9.2 | 85.75 | 7.1 |
| 1,300 | 143.55 | 11.0 | 120.75 | 9.3 |
| 1,400 | 176.55 | 12.6 | 155.75 | 11.1 |
| 1,500 | 209.55 | 14.0 | 190.75 | 12.7 |
| 1,600 | 242.55 | 15.2 | 225.75 | 14.1 |
| [illegible] | [illegible] | [illegible] | [illegible] | [illegible] |

MARRIED COUPLES—INCOME ALL FROM INVESTMENTS

| Income £ | Charge for 1974-75 Income tax £ | Charge for 1974-75 Effective rate Per cent | Proposed charge for 1975-76 Income tax £ | Proposed charge for 1975-76 Effective rate Per cent |
|---|---|---|---|---|
| [illegible] | [illegible] | [illegible] | [illegible] | [illegible] |

MARRIED COUPLES, WITH ONE CHILD NOT OVER 11—INCOME ALL EARNED

| Income £ | Charge for 1974-75 Income tax £ | Charge for 1974-75 Effective rate Per cent | Proposed charge for 1975-76 Income tax £ | Proposed charge for 1975-76 Effective rate Per cent |
|---|---|---|---|---|
| [illegible] | [illegible] | [illegible] | [illegible] | [illegible] |

SINGLE PERSON WITH ADDITIONAL PERSONAL ALLOWANCE ONE CHILD NOT OVER 11—INCOME ALL EARNED

| Income £ | Charge for 1974-75 Income tax £ | Charge for 1974-75 Effective rate Per cent | Proposed charge for 1975-76 Income tax £ | Proposed charge for 1975-76 Effective rate Per cent |
|---|---|---|---|---|
| [illegible] | [illegible] | [illegible] | [illegible] | [illegible] |

HOME NEWS

# Mary Ure died from drink and drugs

Alcoholic and barbiturate poisoning caused the death of Mary Ure, aged 42, the actress, but there was no question of a suicidal overdose, Dr Gavin Thurston, the Westminster coroner, said yesterday. He recorded a verdict of accidental death at the resumed inquest. Miss Ure, who was found dead in her West End flat a few hours after opening in *The Exorcism* at the Comedy Theatre.

Mr Robert Shaw, the actor and playwright, Miss Ure's husband, told the coroner that she had been suffering from depression since their daughter Hannah was born about seven years ago.

"She thought all pills were bad, but there was a period when she was taking antibiotics, barbiturates and tranquilizers, too," he said. Sometimes she was rather careless about her use. She was quite capable of getting up at 3 am and taking pills.

On April 2 her play opened and later they dined. Mr Shaw said he went to the flat because he had to rise early next morning but his wife went on to a party. "She knew she had had a terrific success and was very happy. When she returned home about 3.30 am she seemed relieved and exhausted. When she went to sleep on the sofa he thought she was suffering from a mixture of exhaustion and champagne. He added: "But I have seen her more drunk than that."

Mr Shaw told the coroner that his wife had sometimes wished she was dead, but added: "I think all actresses say that. I do not believe she killed herself."

Dr Jeremiah Slattery, Miss Ure's doctor, said she had been having episodes of personality change. She had had treatment as an inpatient with sedatives and tranquillizers.

Mr Noel Davis, the theatrical producer, said that at a party Miss Ure "had by no means an inordinate amount to drink. She was extremely cheerful, happy and quite capable."

Professor Donald Teare, the pathologist, said the blood alcohol level was 208 milligrams and the blood barbiturate 3.2 in 100 ml. Death was due to alcohol and barbiturate poisoning. The level could have been achieved by small doses at intervals. "I did not regard it as a massive overdose; it is well known that death does occur at these levels."

The coroner said: "She had a successful performance and there is nothing to indicate a massive overdose."

Seventeen four-day-old anacondas, born at London Zoo last summer. The photograph appears in the zoo's annual report.

Comprehensives: The rebel authorities—3

# Why Essex is defying Mr Prentice

Few disputes have disturbed the 424 years of calm scholastic endeavour at the grammar school founded by King Edward VI in Chelmsford, Essex. Until last month the biggest dispute had concerned the master and the usher (his assistant) in the seventeenth century.

The usher alleged that the master had beaten a boy so viciously that blood spurted from his mouth. Details of the dispute are lodged with Essex County Record Office.

But now the office must record that the school is involved in another dispute which threatens the nature of its existence. It is one of four grammar schools that the county plans to retain as selective schools until at least 1978. That has angered Mr Prentice, Secretary of State for Education and Science, and on March 3 he rejected a plan for developing four comprehensive schools in Colchester. Later he put Essex on a short-list of seven "rebel" education authorities.

King Edward VI School, which started with 15 boys, now has 680, all with intelligence quotients of more than 125. It receives the top 3 per cent or so of boys in the county who have been entered by their parents for the voluntary 11-plus examination.

On average about a third of the children who leave junior schools choose to take the examination. That is in accordance with the county's plan for developing comprehensive schools alongside grammar schools for very bright children.

The county believes that that leaves enough academic high-fliers for other secondary schools to have as genuine a comprehensive intake as any comprehensive school in London.

Mr Nigel Fanshawe, the school's headmaster, says it is right for the brightest children to be under one roof so that an "academic atmosphere" can develop. He says that in a comprehensive school a bright boy may be talked out of an attitude to work by the majority who are not academically minded.

"Our mission is to give academic opportunities to socially underprivileged children who cannot afford private education", he says. "I have seen boys come here from absolutely nowhere and get Cambridge scholarships and first-class degrees. These children must have a school like King Edward's available. We are already a very mixed social community; it would not be altered very much if we went comprehensive.

"Very exceptional children need an expertise of teaching all to their own. It would be sad if they were split up around the other secondary schools in the town. There would not be staff of sufficient calibre to cater for their needs. The mathematics teacher who can train a boy designed to become a 'wrangler' [one who gets a first in mathematics] is very rare indeed."

He says that the school is badly equipped to take comprehensive children. "My teachers could not teach children with IQs of 80 or 90, not through ill will but simply because they have not been trained to do it and would not know where to start."

"I do wish Mr Prentice would leave us alone for 10 years or so. People in education today would just like some time to sit back peacefully and think about what they are trying to do. There have been so many changes and experiments in education which have not been properly evaluated."

Mrs Beryl Platt, chairman of the education committee, wants only two years of grace. "All we are asking is that we should be allowed to develop our comprehensive plan (which excludes the newly acquired area of Southend-on-Sea), and which we formulated after years of consultation. We started thinking about going comprehensive long before the Labour Government's circular 10/65. The plan we have evolved is in accordance with the wishes of our parents and teachers."

*Tomorrow: Trafford.*

# In brief

## Rapist tried to hypnotize victim

A man forced a girl aged 15 into his van and raped her then tried to hypnotize her to make her forget what had happened, Mr Arthur Hutchinson, for the prosecution, said at Leeds Crown Court yesterday.

Peter Adlam, aged 23, a trainee miner, of West Street, Hemsworth, South Yorkshire, who pleaded guilty to rape and unlawful sexual intercourse, was sentenced to six years imprisonment.

## Murder charge

Resham Lal, aged 17, of Willis Road, Winson Green, Birmingham, and a boy of Birch were remanded in custody until Friday by magistrates at Smethwick yesterday, charged with the murder of Harban Singh Bains, aged 37, a foundry worker, of Murdoch Road, Smethwick, seven weeks ago.

## Magistrate resigns

Mr William Nelson, aged 47, of Desborough, Northamptonshire, a magistrate, has resigned after being fined £12 by his own bench for ignoring a school crossing control.

## Helicopter crashes

A Sioux helicopter of the Army's Blue Eagles demonstration team crash-landed on a test flight near Andover, Hampshire, yesterday. The pilot, Sergeant Robert Morris, aged 26, suffered minor injuries.

## Priest's jubilee Mass

A Roman Catholic Mass will be celebrated in Gloucester Cathedral tomorrow to mark the jubilee of Provost Matthew Roche, parish priest of St Peter's Roman Catholic church, Gloucester.

## Live shell carrier

Police Constable Derek Bartes was driven three miles in a panda car yesterday to a police station nursing an unexploded shell found near an oil depot at Netherfield, Nottinghamshire, in his lap.

## Hostel for wives

A refuge hostel for battered wives is to open at Old Town, Swindon, Wiltshire, to provide temporary accommodation for seven mothers and their children. It is being set up by the Women's Aid organization.

# Dales park stations reopen for recreation service

From Ronald Kershaw
Leeds

An integrated transport and recreational service for the Yorkshire Dales National Park, linking railways, bus services and guided walks, will start on May 3. Trains chartered by the National Park Committee will travel along the famous Settle to Carlisle line calling at old stations closed five years ago under the Beeching economies. The line is still used by express and goods trains.

The trains will also provide a service for the hill-farming community. They will leave early on Saturday mornings from Leeds, Bradford and stations in Airedale to Skipton and Settle with visitors, and return at mid-morning, picking up local people to allow them several hours' shopping.

In the evenings the trains will take local people back home before bringing ramblers and fell walkers from the national park.

At Garsdale station, in remote moorland between Sedbergh and Hawes, a connecting bus service from both towns will enable local people to reach the trains.

# Call to oppose euthanasia

Christians were urged yesterday by a Sussex Baptist minister to oppose the campaign to legalize euthanasia.

Dr Stanley Thomas told the annual assembly of the Baptist Union of Great Britain and Ireland, in Liverpool, that voluntary euthanasia led to compulsory euthanasia, which would ravage individual freedom and give terrifying power to certain people.

## Bail of £8,000 for woman in explosives case

Mrs Anne Maguire, who was arrested by detectives investigating the Guildford and Woolwich public house bombings, was freed on bail by Sir Carl Aarvold, the Recorder at the Central Criminal Court yesterday.

Mrs Maguire, aged 39, mother of four children, of Third Avenue, Harlesden, London, was granted bail in her own recognizance of £1,000, plus sureties of £5,000 and £2,000.

She had been committed for trial from Guildford last month accused of possessing explosives. Her husband, now in custody, and her two teenage sons, who are on bail, were accused of the same offence.

## Policemen suspended

Four Swansea police officers have been suspended pending investigations, it was stated yesterday, none of them as a result of inquiries by West Mercia police.

# Two wives join seven policemen in dock

Seven policemen facing burglary and associated charges were joined in the dock at Gateshead Magistrates' Court, Tyne and Wear, yesterday by two of their wives and a dairyman.

The policemen—a sergeant and six constables—were originally charged in January and remanded until yesterday. Further charges were made yesterday. All 10 defendants were remanded on bail until May 20.

They are:

Sergeant Robert Storey, aged 35, of Marian Drive, Bill Quay, Gateshead; Constables Barry Robinson, aged 23, of Hepburn Gardens, Felling; David Charles Allen Spoors, aged 21, of Gleneagles Road, Sunderland; Clifford Harding, aged 24, of Leam Lane Estate, Felling; Ian Robert Calderwood, aged 25, of Spout Lane, Washington; William Mitchell Marran, aged 32, of Beechgrove, Springwell, Gateshead; Thomas William McHale, aged 37, of Flexbury Gardens, Felling; Mrs Gill Robinson, aged 20, a policewoman, now staying at Fishburn, Stockton; Mrs Barbara Harding, aged 23, now a police authority clerk, staying at Silksworth, near Sunderland; and John Burdon, aged 43, dairyman, of Chichester Road, South Shields.

PCs Robinson, Spoors, Harding and Calderwood have been on remand on a charge of burglary, PC Robinson, PC Spoors, Sergeant Storey and PC Marran on a charge of burglary, PC Robinson on a further charge of burglary, and Sergeant Storey and PC McHale on charges of receiving stolen goods.

Yesterday Mrs Robinson was charged with six offences of receiving stolen goods and another of handling stolen goods. Mr Burdon faces two charges of receiving stolen spirits worth £291. PC Spoors, PC Calderwood, Sergeant Storey and PC Robinson were charged additionally with burglary; PC Calderwood with another case of burglary, Sergeant Storey with handling stolen goods, and Mr Marran with the theft of orange juice and food.

## Iranian couple with £5,000 stole £2.49 shirt

An Iranian couple had between them more than £5,000 in various currencies when they stole from an Oxford Street shop, Mr St John Harmsworth, the Marlborough Street magistrate, was told yesterday.

Ahmed Mohammadi, aged 50, a carpet merchant, and Miss Zahra Mostofi, aged 20, a student, who gave an address at Slough, admitted stealing a shirt worth £2.49. They were each fined £400 with £15 costs.

Another Iranian visitor, Farrokhzadi Araston, aged 40, an electrician, staying at Chiswick, admitted stealing clothes valued at £37.40 from a store in Oxford Street. He was fined £250.

## Radio 3 on the ball

BBC Radio 3's music service will be off the air when cricket commentaries on the World Cup final and England v Australia Test matches are broadcast

Appointments Vacant
also on page 24

PARLIAMENT, April 15, 1975

# Chancellor warns on pay: Budget strategy moves resources away from private consumption

House of Commons

MR HEALEY, Chancellor of the Exchequer (Leeds, East, Lab), in his Budget statement said: When I presented my first Budget just over a year ago Britain was simultaneously emerging from two months of three-day working and entering a period in which her own and the world economy were bound to be dominated by the effects of an unprecedented increase in the price of oil. Both the three-day week and th oil crisis crated uncertainties about the development of our economy which made prediction dangerous and policy precarious.

A year later many of these uncertainties have diminished. We recovered more quickly than many expected at the time from the consequences of the three-day week, and in the middle quarters of 1974 output was 1 or 2 per cent above the level of a year earlier. But now that the consequences of the oil crisis can be seen more clearly they provide a formidable setting for British economic policy in the next few years.

In the first place, the increase in the price of oil combined with the increases in the price of food and raw materials which we must import have inflicted a heavy blow on our real income as a nation. Although through the year as a whole, taking into account the fall in the first two months and the later recovery, our gross domestic product was little changed, the savage lurch in the terms of trade against us between 1973 and 1974 meant that the nation's real income actually fell by about 4 per cent last year—in effect, it took away 4p from every pound we earn.

We entered 1974 with a balance of payments deficit already running at a rate equivalent to 3 per cent of our gross national product. But the cost of the oil we imported last year was about £2,900m more than the year before and this left us with a current deficit in 1974 of £3,800m—equivalent to more than 5 per cent of our GNP. In effect we were spending 5 per cent more as a nation than we were producing.

In 1974 we had little difficulty in borrowing sufficient money to cover this enormous deficit on commercial terms, from sources which imposed no policy conditions on their lending. But there is a danger in future that the supply of unconditional funds may prove inadequate to meet our needs. If we are to go on attracting such funds their owners must believe that the value of the money they have placed with us is not threatened by the consequences of our policy actions or inactions.

## Oil prices and inflation

This brings me to the second consequence of the oil crisis—its impact on inflation in Britain. In February last the retail price index had increased nearly 20 per cent compared with February, 1974. The major source of this inflation for most of last year was the increase in world prices to which oil made such a contribution. But for many months now the prices of most metals and nearly all other industrial materials have tended to fall.

The price of most imported foodstuffs except sugar and beef has been fairly stable. The price of crude oil to the United Kingdom has been much the same since mid-1974. For the last six months or so the main cause of rising prices in Britain has been the scale of wage and salary increases, which were far in excess of what could be justified by the increases in prices and could not possibly be offset by improvements in productivity.

And whereas last year we were not alone among western countries in having a very high rate of inflation, there is a risk that this year we shall be out on our own, far above the rest.

I hope I do not need to stress the domestic damage which would be caused if inflation continued at this rate. Such inflation redistributes the nation's wealth and income in an arbitrary and anti-social way. It engenders a deep sense of insecurity in all sections of society. It distorts the allocation of resources and makes rational planning of expenditure extremely difficult at every level, fo rthe housewife, for business and industry, and for the Government themselves.

And if we are almost alone among the industrialized countries with so high a rate of inflation it will have very serious consequences for our trade and payments. Our costs and prices will be tending all the time to rise relative to those of our trading partners. In other words, our international competitiveness will be tending to decline.

Unless we were willing to contemplate a continuing downward drift in our exchange rate which would increase ou rdomestic costs and prices further still, e would find it impossible to prevent our balance of payments from actually deteriorating at a time when we clearly need to improve it substantially.

## Petro-dollar surplus

The third major impact of the oil crisis is one which affects the whole world but which I think we in Britain foresaw more clearl than many of our partners. The fact that the oil-producing countries would be unable at first to spend the enormous additional sums of money they earned meant that the rise in oil prices was bound to reduce world demand.

We argued continuously last year that the consuming countries should recognize that the size of the resulting petro-dollar surplus would threaten a world slump unless they were prepared to take compensating measures to increase demand. We ourselves did so in July and again in November to the extent which we felt we could afford, given the size of our external deficit and the rate of our domestic inflation. Others were much slower to react.

The result is that the exceptional boom between 1972 and 1973 turned rapidly into a world economic recession which is already the most severe since the Thirties.

It is far too rarely recognized, even perhaps by Governments, how long a time lag there must be between fiscal action and its consequences for demand and employment. The main reason why our rate of unemployment in Britain has risen so much less than that of nearly all our competitors is that we took action before the blow hit us.

In fact the effect of the July and November Budgets in stimulating employment in Britain is now being felt. It will add about £1,000m to demand in the financial year which has just begun. By the same token, the full effects of the recent measures of the German and American governments will not be felt for some time. Nevertheless, they give us real grounds for confidence about the world outlook in 1976, although it is still difficult to be certain how soon world recovery will begin and how fast it will proceed thereafter.

In the early stages of the oil crisis there were also huge uncertainties about the size of the petro-dollar surplus that was likely to emerge, and some exceptionally high figures were being quoted of the cumulative size which these surpluses would reach.

Those who put about estimates of this size not only took a very pessimistic view of the future course of oil prices and the associated elasticity of demand, but also appear to have underestimated the extent to which oil producing countries would be able to spend their revenues, mainly on imports of goods and services, but also partly on very generous aid to certain countries of the third world.

There is a developing consensus that the cumulative petro-dollar surplus will reach its peak a good deal earlier than expected and that the peak itself will be a good deal lower. Many people now believe that a cumulative surplus by 1980 of the order of $250 billion in 1974 prices is somewhere near the likely outcome. If this is indeed the case, then the strains on the international monetary system imposed by the petro-dollar surplus will be easier to handle.

Moreover, the new IMF recycling facility which is now operating, and the OECD Financial Support Fund which we signed last week, will help further to reduce those strains. But for the same reason the consuming countries will have to plan on transferring resources to the producers to pay for their oil faster and on a larger scale than seemed likely to be necessary a year ago.

I have started with this brief account of the impact of the oil crisis on Britain and the world because it establishes the setting within which we must seek to solve our own national economic problems—problems which are at least a generation old, reflected in structural weaknesses which have so far defied the efforts of successive Governments.

As I have said on more than one occasion, I do not believe that we are likely to find the solution to these basic structural problems solely through the instruments of fiscal policy. The whole of our post-war experience demonstrates that macro-economic measures by themselves do not ensure that we have sufficient modern plant and equipment, or sufficient workers with the skills needed to maintain our place in a highly competitive world market.

They must be accompanied therefore by measures which directly affect the tempo and direction of our industrial development.

I propose to include in my Budget provision for a number of such measures which at least start on the necessary changes, and will shortly be reinforced by the proposed new instruments of industrial policy.

## The economic background

I now turn to review the economic background of my Budget in more detail. A year ago I inherited an economy still overheated by the excessive reflation and monetary expansion of 1973. In my measures in March last year I was concerned to ensure some easing in the pressure of demand without permitting the international factors to which I have referred to inflict on us the waste of human and material resources involved in mass unemployment. At the same time I sought to ensure a shift in the structure of demand towards investment and exports.

In fact fixed investment in manufacturing last year was 10 per cent higher than in 1973, holding up well right to December. Exports of goods increased 7 per cent in volume last year and the latest figures have been very encouraging.

We seem for some time now pretty well to have maintained our share of world trade in manufactures and we may even have increased our share lately, since the volume of our exports has held up while world trade has actually fallen.

At the same time, the volume of our imports increased very little last year and has fallen since. But as I have said, this physical shift of resources in favour of our balance of payments was not sufficient to offset the enormous shift in the terms of trade against us.

The volume of personal consumption fell a little at the beginning of last year but recovered during the latter part and seems to have held up so far this year.

Thanks to the increases in demand, our gross domestic product was maintained, and for most of last year the rise in unemployment was fairly moderate. Though it has risen substantially in the last four or five months, in mid-March the percentage rate of unemployment for the United Kingdom, seasonally adjusted, was 3.2 per cent, which in contrast to most other industrialised countries was no higher than the rate of unemployment at the beginning of 1973. But we have nearly a quarter of a million workers on short time.

In the period ahead, the growth of our exports will turn critically on the recovery in world trade. Given the scale of the reflationary measures now taken in the United States and Germany, I think it sensible to work on the assumption that the recovery will be underway by around the turn of the year. Completion of the downward adjustment of stocks in the United States and the expansionary measures taken recently in France and Japan, though fairly modest, should help too.

During the first three quarters of 1974, the volume of total world imports probably grew modestly—perhaps by some 2½ per cent. In the fourth quarter, an absolute decline seems to have set in, which seems likely to have continued until the present quarter.

We may however be close to the bottom of the trough. If so trade will begin to recover in the second half of this year.

After the turn of the year, there is reason to hope that growth will be fairly rapid. By the standards of previous trade cycles, there would be nothing exceptional either about the timing of this upturn or about a rate of growth of 10-15 per cent, or even more, once it gets underway. The fastest growing element in world trade over this period will probably continue to be the imports of the oil-producer countries.

On public sector finances, in November I put the public sector borrowing requirement for 1974-75 at £6,300m. Since then, there have been further changes which have increased this figure to £7,600m. Current receipts in total have been much the same as expected, but there have been a large number of changes on the expenditure side.

Nearly £300m of the increase is accounted for by the measures already announced in respect of Burmah Oil, the Crown Agents and Channel Tunnel compensation.

There has been an increase of about £1,000m in current expenditure, the bulk of which is accounted for by higher wages and prices than had been expected in November, not least as a result of the Houghton award for teachers.

Within this total, a further £100m reflects additional expenditure on subsidies, principally in respect of agriculture and housing. The fact is that when inflation is running at the rates hitherto regarded as normal, it has little significant effect on the balance between public expenditure and receipts. But in the conditions of last year, the inflation caused by excessively large wage and salary increases raised public expenditure in money terms much more than public sector receipts, and the public sector deficit rose sharply.

This faces the Government with the unenviable choice between cuts in the expenditure programmes previously planned or massive increases in taxation. Indeed it must cause one to reflect seriously on the wisdom of planning public expenditure solely on the basis of constant prices.

I have aimed to keep the rate of monetary expansion firmly under control and to avoid a repetition of the experience of 1972 and 1973 when excessive monetary growth contributed substantially to inflationary pressures, as I gather the new Conservative Front Bench would agree.

In 1974 on the other hand, M3, the broader definition, rose by 12½ per cent while M1 rose by 11 per cent; both of these rates were significantly lower than the underlying growth rate of gross domestic product in money terms and compare more favourably still with the 28 per cent growth in M3 in the previous year.

## The social contract

That this modest rate of monetary expansion has been compatible with the larger public sector borrowing requirement reflects various factors—in particular the large domestic sales of public sector debt outside the banking system, the way in which the external current balance of payments deficit has been financed, and the fairly modest level of demand for bank credit from the private sector.

With money supply rising at this rate, the growth of banks' interest bearing eligible liabilities was, in late 1974 and early 1975, increasingly well within the guideline or "corset" set out under the supplementary deposits scheme. In fact the corset was no longer necessary, at least for the time being, to keep the growth of money supply down to an acceptable rate. On February 28, therefore, the Bank of England was able, with my approval, to suspend the operation of the scheme.

Interest rates have fallen substantially over the past year. This has been a welcome relief to industry and other borrowers.

As I said earlier the rate of inflation for many months has been determined primarily by the increase in wages and salaries. We in the Government have honoured our side of the social contract by our programme of legislation on industrial relations, by fiscal legislation to secure a juster and more equitable distribution of wealth and income, by action on food subsidies and rents, and by generous provision for the pensioners and others among the underprivileged in our society. Total Government expenditure on items which make up the social wage increased 34 per cent last year—or about 12 per cent in real terms. In fact the social wage now amounts to about £1,000 a year for every member of the working population.

The TUC honoured their side of the contract in their pay guidelines (Conservative laughter), the heart of which is that there is only limited scope for real increases in consumption at present and that in general pay increases should therefore be confined to compensation for the rise in the cost of living since the last settlement.

Many in the trade union movement have worked hard to apply the guidelines. But the general rate of pay increases has been well above the increase in the cost of living and much farther still above the level in countries which compete with us. The threshold payments introduced by our predecessors played an exceptionally damaging role. Some of the higher increases were awarded to low-paid workers or to groups, particularly in the public sector, who had been unfairly held back by the statutory policy. But rates of increase which ought to have been exceptional have been applied to others who have no such justification.

As a result, by February, the retail price index stood 19.9 per cent above a year earlier and the wage rate index was 28.9 per cent above. Analysis of settlements made since last July gives a rate not much less than this for the total pay increases on a year earlier for those concerned.

These settlements were made in a period when the retail price index increase was 17 per cent to 20 per cent. So pay has been running about 8 per cent or 9 per cent ahead of prices. I do not believe that anyone would claim that the TUC guidelines were intended to permit this result.

As I have warned the House and the country on many occasions since last summer, settlements so far beyond the increase in the cost of living are bound severely to restrict my room for manoeuvre in this Budget, and to limit the pace at which the Government can carry out its remaining commitments under the social contract.

## Damage to credit

The immediate effect of excessive wage settlements is to increase private consumption, with damaging effects on the balance of resources in the economy, which the Government must seek to remove by increasing taxation, as I warned the House last November. But within six months the wage increases will feed through into the prices of the goods and services produced by the workers concerned. (Conservative cheers).

The higher rate of inflation damages both our competitiveness and our credit as a nation. When it is as high as it has recently been in this country, it also destroys business confidence, disrupts the planning of industrial investment and leads to increased unemployment and short-time working. (Further Conservative cheers).

If the wage settlements in the public services are as large as they have been recently, they must add substantially to the public sector deficit, and so put pressure on the Government towards restrictive budgetary policy. The gains from such wage increases are limited and transient, the losses enduring and widely spread.

Bitter experience under many postwar Governments has, I think, taught most of us on both sides of the House that a statutory policy for incomes is unlikely to produce better results. Unless, however, the voluntary policy achieves stricter adherence to guidelines laid down by the trade unions of their own free will, the consequence can only be rising unemployment, cuts in public expenditure, lower living standards for the country as a whole and growing tension throughout society.

It has been traditional in Britain for many years to make the centrepiece of the spring Budget the so-called Budget judgment. I did so myself last year. As I then explained, the Budget judgment is conventionally seen as an estimate of the amount of demand which the Government should put into the economy or take out of it in order to achieve the optimum use of resources in the short term.

For many reasons I do not propose to adopt that approach today. Against the setting which I outlined at the beginning of my speech I must seek to strike a new sort of balance between the tactical needs of the immediate future and a strategic attack on the long-term structural problems of our economy.

I fully understand why I have been urged by so many friends both inside and outside the House to treat unemployment as the central problem and to stimulate a further growth in home consumption, public or private, so as to start getting the rate of unemployment down as fast as possible. I do not believe it would be wise to follow this advice today.

As I have said, I did last July and November adopt measures whose full effect would only be felt this year. I cannot afford to increase demand further today when 5p in every pound we spend at home has been provided by our creditors abroad and inflation is running at its current rate. (Conservative cheers.) I do not believe anyone in Britain would thank me for producing an even larger deficit on our balance of payments and injecting a further massive dose of inflation through price and wage increases.

Moreover a Rake's Progress of this nature could not last for long. The patience of our creditors would soon be exhausted. We would then face the appalling prospect of going down in a matter of weeks to the levels of public services and personal living standards which we could finance entirely from what we earned. I do not believe that our political or social system could stand the strain.

## Recovery in world trade

Fortunately the alternative to reflation now is not a continuing rise in unemployment over the indefinite future. The measures I took last year should ensure that our levels of unemployment in Britain this year will be less severe than those in other countries affected by the world recession.

The main purpose of my Budget today will be to ensure that our economy can take full advantage of the strong recovery in world trade we can expect next year. I have emphasized many times to my finance minister colleagues at international meetings in public and in private that the countries with comparatively strong balance of payments positions must lead the way to world recovery for the benefit not only of themselves but for the international economy as a whole.

For these countries to maintain deflationary policies is to damage the flow of world trade just as directly as by physical controls on imports. Now that most of them are taking the necessary decisions, we in Britain must be able to take full advantage of the trading opportunities they will offer us. Of course, if those opportunities proved after all inadequate I would have to consider other measures for maintaining employment in Britain.

My intention in this Budget is to establish a strategy which will enable us to achieve a very substantial improvement in our current account deficit in the next two years, and to eliminate the deficit entirely as rapidly as possible thereafter. We have to set more of our national resources aside for exports. This is not a question of choice or of political decision. It is a fact of the world we live in—a fact which I must budget for now. Our overseas deficit must be removed—and the world must know that it will be removed.

It is not a question of removing our deficit at a stroke or in a single year. Indeed, as I think is now universally accepted, so long as the oil exporting countries are unable to spend all their earnings on goods and services from the consumer countries, the consuming world must accept the corresponding deficit and finance it by borrowing from them.

This can be done through the market, directly from the oil producers or indirectly through international institutions, using recycling mechanisms such as the oil facility I helped to set up in the International Monetary Fund.

But several factors have emerged in recent months which make it necessary for us in Britain to reduce our balance of payments deficit more rapidly than would be possible under existing policies. One reason, as I have already explained, is our current rate of inflation. Another is the evidence that the oil producing countries may be spending their wealth rather faster than envisaged and that we must therefore be ready to pay them by supplying the exports which we owe them rather faster.

A minor, but not insignificant, factor is the delay in the expected flow of oil from the North Sea in the next year or two which was described in yesterday's Brown Book. Our offshore oil remains an asset of unique value, and we still expect to reach self-sufficiency by 1980. But the build-up of supplies will now follow a profile slightly less helpful for our short-term problems.

Behind all these particular reasons for closing our deficit more quickly lies one overriding and, to me, compelling argument. We in Britain must keep control of our own policy. We must keep ahead of events.

It would be disastrous if we were forced, as sometimes in the past, into running desperately after events which we could not control. By relying unduly on borrowing we would run the risk of being forced to accept political and economic conditions imposed by the will of others. (Conservative cheers.) This would represent an unequivocal loss of sovereignty which I think neither side of the House would wish to invite.

One of the disadvantages—or perhaps advantages—of being a finance minister at the present time is the exceptionally wide diversity of views among professional economists. Apart from the general uncertainty of forecasting, to which I referred last November, there are deep divisions among the experts about what makes the economy tick. However valuable their advice on specific issues, they find themselves divided on most of the major problems on which the politician most needs their help—like growth and inflation.

Some of them even admit it, though humility has not always been a hallmark of their profession. (Laughter.)

At present there are particularly fierce disputes about the causal relationships between the four components of a nation's economy which together—and *a priori*, as my tutors used to tell me years ago—must add up to zero—the external balance, the financial balance of the public sector, and the balances of the corporate and personal sectors.

## Public sector deficit

But although there are different approaches to the analysis of this problem, I think most commentators would agree that it is impossible to bring about a sustained and progressive improvement in the balance of payments over a period of years if at the same time the public sector financial deficit is increasing rapidly as a percentage of GNP.

Yet, unless I take steps today to change the situation, this is the very prospect which now faces us. So I must give the House some explanation of the state of our affairs seen from this particular angle of approach.

The pre-Budget estimate for the public sector financial deficit in 1975-76 points to a figure of nearly £9 billion.

Though bitter experience compels me to emphasize the substantial margin of error in such estimates, I am convinced that a figure of this size is inconsistent with the strategy I have laid down. The public sector borrowing requirement, which is higher than the financial deficit since it includes borrowing for on-lending to the private sector or overseas, was similarly going to rise to over £10 billion. Expressed as a percentage of GNP this represents an increase from just under 10 per cent in 1974-75 to over 11 per cent in 1975-76.

The main reason for this increase is that incomes financed by the public sector are rising faster than present rates of inflation, whereas on present policies the receipts of the public sector are doing no more than keep pace with the inflation.

Pay in central and local government is likely to cost upwards of £3 billion more in 1975-76 than in 1974-75. That forecast is based mainly on settlements or proposals already made.

Retirement pensions, which are related to the increase in earnings, and other grants to persons are likely to cost between £2.5 billion and £3 billion more. There will also be an increase of about £1 billion in the servicing of the debt.

On the receipts side, the yield of personal taxes on income and of national insurance contributions is rising faster than the inflation, but this is more than offset by the slower growth of the yield of other taxes, including in present circumstances the corporation tax (which shows an actual decline) and the excise duties.

## Unacceptable risks

I have come to the conclusion that to budget on the basis of a public sector deficit of some £9,000m and a borrowing requirement of over £10,000m would involve unacceptable risks.

In November I was prepared to tolerate a deficit of nearly £5,000m and a borrowing requirement of over £6,000m because I was satisfied that in the circumstances of the time this would not lead to unacceptable consequences for the pressure on resources, the balance of payments, or money supply.

Subsequent events have, I think, justified that judgment. But a deficit and borrowing requirement of the scale forecast for 1975-76 on the basis of unchanged tax rates would be too high by any standards. My intention is to reduce the borrowing requirement by well over £1 billion in 1975-76 and about £3 billion in 1976-77.

This change can be brought about only by some reductions in both public and private spending. The reduction in spending would be necessary in any case if resources are to be made available to take advantage of the big improvement in world trade that I foresee for next year. There remains the problem of allocating the burden of readjustment between the public and private sectors and deciding what the timing should be.

The White Paper on Public Expenditure warned that the burden of taxation would have to rise. The situation, as I see it, makes a sizable increase in taxation unavoidable.

But to attempt to take the whole burden on taxation would make an impact on personal consumption so large as to generate new inflationary pressures. Some cut in public expenditure is therefore unavoidable (Conservative cheers).

But if we are to avoid the wasteful disruption and extra costs always involved by short-term cuts in expenditure programmes—we have all too much experience of that—we must plan the reductions well ahead so that they cause the least possible damage when they are carried out. They must also be chosen and distributed so as to preserve as far as possible the industrial and social priorities of the Government.

I have therefore decided, as part of the forward strategy I have explained, that in the current year I shall rely on higher taxation, which can take effect at short notice, and that the reduction in public expenditure should take place in 1976-77 (Conservative protests). It is essential that these budgetary instruments should not be undermined by any relaxation of our stance on monetary policy.

It is my intention that the growth of money supply should continue to be contained at a level which does not fuel inflation and that, consistently with this, the credit available should be concentrated on the essential needs of the economy. I will not hesitate to reintroduce the supplementary deposits scheme should this prove necessary.

In our present situation the most important single object of economic policy must be to improve the performance of our manufacturing industry. Generations of schoolboys have been taught that Britain is crucially dependent on the export of manufactured goods to pay for her indispensable imports of foodstuffs and basic materials. The slow rate at which our exports of manufactures has grown over the last century, and particularly in the last 50 years, has undoubtedly been a major constraint on the sustainable rate of our economic growth.

In the last 20 years the situation was made worse by the fact that our imports of finished manufactures increased so much faster than our exports of manufactures, making our net exports increasingly inadequate to pay for our net imports of food and raw materials.

In the 10 years 1964-1974 the volume of our imports of finished manufacturers increased by 14 per cent a year while our exports of finished manufactures rose by only 6 per cent a year. In the three years up to the end of 1973 the situation became a great deal worse—the volume of imports grew at 23 per cent a year, while exports increased by just under 7 per cent.

If these trends were allowed to continue, it would not take many years before we became net importers of manufactured goods as well as being net importers of food and raw materials. It would be impossible to balance our accounts without savage cuts in our standard of life. We would have to earn a living far below that of other countries by being a tourist attraction and a provider of banking and financial services.

It is imperative to reverse this trend and it is not impossible to do so. In fact last year was one of the rare years when our exports of finished manufactures increased by more than our imports—just over 7 per cent in volume compared with less than 2 per cent.

Of course one cannot build much on the experience of a single year and it is possible that this was due to special factors.

But from now one, we must do everything in our power to ensure that our exports of manufactures increase faster than our imports and not the other way round. We must preserve and improve our international competitiveness—a word that covers many things other than just relative wages and prices. It comprises the quality and availability of industrial capacity and of skilled manpower, and the efficiency, originality and the vitality of our industrial management. It includes above all the ability to deliver on time. (Conservative cheers.)

In all these respects there is a vast task of regeneration ahead of us. We must reverse the process of de-industrialization—of a steady loss of jobs and factory capacity, year after year—which the Secretary of State for Industry, described so convincingly in a recent article. (Conservative laughter.)

The Industry Bill now before Parliament will shortly provide two new and powerful instruments for this regeneration. (Labour cheers.)

## Improvement of training

In my Budget measures, to which I now turn, I have attempted to complement my overall financial strategy, and to foreshadow the operation of those new instruments, with specific measures which, though modest, go to the heart of our industrial problems.

Whatever the short-term constraints, we must protect and improve the industrial capability which will be essential for our economic growth in the longer term. This applies both to manpower and to investment and is particularly necessary if we are to take full advantage of export opportunities next year without suffering from the supply constraints which limited our performance during the last boom in 1972-73.

The measures I a mabout to describe will go some way to reduce the level of unemployment in the short run, as well as improving our industrial capacity in the medium term.

One of our most persistent problems is the shortage of skilled manpower in key industries and key areas. In a recession one of the first cuts that firms make is in their training programmes; and at the same time, potential trainees are less willing to undergo training when they see less immediate prospect of it leading to a definite and attractive job, especially if it means being away from home or moving permanently.

So when an economic upswing comes, bottlenecks emerge in the supply of skilled and trained manpower, particularly in the engineering industry.

What is more, the problem seems to get worse and the shortage arrives earlier with each new business cycle. We must therefore use the recession to prepare for the upswing by improving the level of training, both by firms themselves and in the Government's skill centres and colleges of further education.

Accordingly, in consultation with the Secretary of State for Employment, I propose to allocate an additional £20m in 1975-76 and £30m in 1976-77 to the Manpower Services (Labour cheers)—for the purpose of strengthening and accelerating the growth of the training programmes of industry and of the Training Services Agency; introducing special measures of training for the unemployed; improving the efficiency of the Employment Services Agency; and providing additional incentives for job mobility.

This will be on top of the substantial development already planned in the programmes for which the commission are responsible. It will make available training for some 30,000 additional people in 1976.

In addition to 20,000 places provided once-and-for-all short term, the total involved in Training Services Agency schemes in 1976 will then stand at 80,000 compared with 46,000 in 1974 and only 5,540 in 1964.

The problem is not, however, only a short-term one and it is not only a matter of providing more facilities for training but of making better use of the skilled manpower we already possess and encouraging people to acquire skills. This calls for a substantial effort by both sides of industry at the level of the individual firm or factory as well as by the Government.

The Manpower Services Commission includes representatives of industry, and in recent months the Secretary of State for Employment and I have had the benefit of much valuable advice from the commission, supported by its agencies. We intend to continue this, and our meetings will be underpinned by continuing consultation at official level.

Another possibility which we have discussed with the Manpower Services Commission is that, in a period of high unemployment, special payments should be made to firms for a limited period if they were prepared to defer planned redundancies.

There would be no question of using such a scheme to encourage overmanning or to prop up firms which would be incapable of standing on their own feet in normal times. (Conservative laughter.) The scheme would relate to large-scale redundancies in areas of high unemployment, and would be intended for situations where early recovery offered a prospect of economic employment in the firms concerned.

Then it would make good sense from every point of view that the workers should be kept in productive employment rather than becoming unemployed.

In some cases the extra time could be used to arrange for their redeployment into more valuable jobs.

The Government have decided that although this is not a measure called for by the present situation, we should put ourselves in a position to use it if the circumstances required. The Secretary of State for Employment, will, therefore, be putting down an amendment to the Employment Protection Bill to provide the necessary enabling powers.

Following lengthy discussions in the National Economic Development Council on the long standing problems of inadequate investment and industrial capacity, two studies on the investment programmes of the nationalized industries are being made.

The first is designed to give them a reasonable degree of assurance about the stability of their long-term investment, so long as it satisfies a stringent economic and financial scrutiny in the course of the annual investment reviews. The second concerns the industries' relations with their suppliers in manufacturing industry.

The measures we are now taking to restore economic pricing policies are an essential feature in bringing commercial criteria to bear on the industries' investment programmes. And I believe that these policies and the return to financial viability will do much to improve morale throughout the whole field of public enterprise and to help ensure its efficient use of resources.

## Framework for investment

As regards the private sector, our general approach must be to establish an economic framework within which companies themselves have both the ability and the will to mobilize the resources available for investment. I hope this Budget will help in securing that framework.

But in addition I believe that there is a need for the selective use of public funds to stimulate investment and growth in particular sectors of private industry. The National Enterprise Board and planning agreements will soon provide us with new instruments for helping to raise the level of industrial investment.

In Scotland and Wales the new development agencies will have similar tasks as part of their functions.

Meanwhile, we intend to make full use of the powers of selective assistance under the Industry Act to prime the pump for viable investment projects.

We know that there are cases where major investment projects have been planned but shelved for the time being. I have decided that, to help in building up our productive capacity in ways that will assist the balance of payments, special assistance will be provided to encourage selected schemes of this kind to go ahead provided that construction or installation work is begun before the end of March 1976. This will thus be a temporary measure.

Priority will be given to projects which can be put into operation quickly.

In addition, we intend, in consultation with management and unions, to introduce further schemes like the one which is already in operation for wool textiles, designed to assist certain industries as a whole to modernize and rationalize.

We intend to introduce such a scheme for the ferrous foundry industry on which preliminary discussions are being held with the Economic Development Committee. This is a good example of a basic industry which it is essential to modernize.

I have decided that a sum of £100m should provisionally be allocared, for these two purposes. Assistance on this scale should generate additional investment by industry of £500m to £600m—investment which otherwise would not have taken place.

I have also decided to introduce a series of measures to encourage the shift of resources into the balance of payments. To facilitate the provision of working capital for exports, ECGD will provide facilities to guarantee loans for pre-shipment finance on large export projects. The details are to be announced in the next few days. This is in addition to the cost-escalation scheme announced by the Secretary of State for Trade last month.

## Price code changes

The Secretary of State for Prices will also propose some further amendments to the Price Code to assist the liquidity of companies which are exporting and to support investment.

The scope of the investment relief in the Price Code will be extended to cover investment for exporting, and the Secretary of State will take power to give some relief from the controls in certain specific circumstances where this would assist the balance of payments.

It is also proposed to increase the rate of the investment relief from 17.5 per cent to 20 per cent and to extend it to cover commercial vehicles. The Secretary of State will be issuing a consultative document about these changes tomorrow morning.

In addition to these measures, it is important that we should do all we can to economize on imports, and I hope that all those who are concerned with imports, including the providers of credit, will have our balance of payments position always in their minds.

We are just as concerned to get the best use of resources in agriculture as in industry.

World prices of many of our food imports have risen steeply in the last two or three years, representing a heavy extra burden on our balance of payments.

The Minister of Agriculture is about to publish a White Paper which considers future world price prospects and policies for food production from our own resources. This concludes, on the basis of the best judgment we can at present make about the likely future level of world prices, that they will call for a continuing increase in the output of our own agriculture over the next five years—and it will be our aim to achieve this.

This package of micro-economic measures will make a real contribution towards ensuring that industry does in fact take advantage of the opportunity presented to it by our macro-economic measures. The key to improvement in our economic performance lies in this area. Macro-economic strategy, as has been seen so many times in the past, can lead the horse to the water, but it cannot make him drink.

These measures will help exports, but it may be convenient if I mention here the steps I propose to take to end a particular drain on our balance of payments. I refer to the cost in foreign exchange of gold coins coming in from abroad, the vast majority having no value other than their content of the metal.

## Control of gold coin imports

This particular operation developed rapidly in the middle of 1974, and appeared to be part of an international wave of renewed speculation in gold. I refrained from applying restrictions last autumn, when there seemed to be a real chance that the fashion would die down and, in particular, that the prospective relaxation in the United States on private gold holding would reverse the trend.

This has not happened, however, and the time has come to stop this drain, which has amounted to on average £25m a month in the first quarter of this year.

The problem must be tackled in two ways, aimed to prevent further speculation and hoarding. First, the exchange controls have been tightened under a statutory instrument being laid today. These provide that gold coins minted after 1837 can no longer be bought from non-residents except by authorized dealers, who can sell only to non-residents.

Secondly, the Secretary of State for Trade has made the import of gold coins subject to individual licensing. The import restrictions will come into force from midnight tonight. The new exchange control rules are effective at once. Details are in a Treasury press notice; and a revised exchange control notice will be available tomorrow.

We must include gold medallions and the like within the scope of the controls to prevent the obvious risk of speculators concentrating on these items, which have also been exempted since 1971.

The new arrangements do not, however, impose any restriction on holding gold coins already here, so coin collectors need not register nor obtain permits as they had to when gold coins were controlled before.

## Cuts in public spending

I now turn to the cuts in public expenditure which have become inevitable. In addition to the regeneration of British industry we have always given priority to improvements in the social field. I plan to maintain this priority—not only in revising our public expenditure plans, but also in making the necessary tax increases so as to maintain and extend the progressivity which was a feature of my earlier Budgets.

In my Budget a year ago, I recognized that, in order to allow increases in social benefits, in housing and in subsidies on basic foods, savings would need to be made in other areas of public expenditure wherever possible. For example, we have done a great deal in recent months towards reducing the huge deficits in the nationalized industries, and there will be further substantial savings in 1975-76.

Our public spending plans were set out in the White Paper published in January. The White Paper described the implications of the expenditure programmes for the economy as a whole; and it warned that if the economic prospects deteriorated the expenditure programmes would have to be reappraised.

The prospects unfortunately have deteriorated, and I have explained why public expenditure savings must make a substantial contribution in 1976-77 to the necessary reduction in domestic demand.

The planned level of expenditure in that year, as set out in the White Paper, will be reduced by over £1,100m at present prices or £900m at 1974 survey prices. To permit comparison with the White Paper I will use 1974 survey prices in describing the distribution of these cuts.

The defence budget will be cut by £110m or about 3 per cent.

## Council house building

In the civil programmes, current expenditure on goods and services, including manpower, will generally be reduced by 1.5 per cent, and capital expenditure by 10 per cent. But we have not thought it right to apply these reductions to certain services such as the general practitioner services or the provision of essential school places.

These reductions will produce a saving of about £125m on current expenditure on goods and services and about £280m on capital expenditure.

No reduction is proposed in the building of new council houses, but a saving of £50m will be found from other capital expenditure i[n] the housing programme.

As regards subsidies, I an[nounced] last November the deci[sion] to phase out the deficit[s] caused in the nationalized indu[s]tries by price restraint, and w[e] have also announced our intentio[n] to contain and eventually reduc[e] the food subsidies.

I now estimate that pric[e] restraint subsidies for the nationa[l]lized industries will come dow[n] from £530m in 1974-75, at 197[4] survey prices, to about £70m th[is] year and are likely to have bee[n] phased out completely by Apri[l] 1976. The planned provision f[or] food subsidies in 1976-77 will [be] reduced by £150m and that f[or] housing subsidies by £65m.

Within the arrangements for t[he] investment programme of t[he] nationalized industries I ha[ve] described, we plan to produ[ce] savings of about £100m by securi[ng] a more stringent and realist[ic] determination of their capit[al] requirements.

In addition we have decid[ed] with reluctance that we cann[ot] afford to increase our provisi[on] for overseas aid quite so mu[ch] as we had hoped. A reduction [of] £20m will be made, spread in t[he] case over 1975-76 and 1976-77, a programme still rising substa[n]tially in cash terms.

Finally, we have decided not [to] proceed with the mid-term cens[us].

I am publishing a table sett[ing] out the incidence of these redu[c]tions in planned expenditure [on] the main programmes.

A sizable proportion of th[e] savings will fall on programm[es] administered by the local autho[ri]ties, and I realize what this m[eans]. I do not think that it wo[uld] be right to leave them to face [it] without closer guidance and h[elp] from ministers.

I know that local authori[ties] have complained that in the p[ast] governments have urged them [to] spend on particular services [and] to save on the total.

This Government, however, h[ave]

# 2% on income tax: 64p on spirits: 2p on beer: 24p on wine: 7p on cigarettes: 25% VAT on non-essentials

n working towards closer son between ministers and local horities on financial issues. Secretary of State for the ironment will now put to the irmen of the representative ociations proposals to set up a sultative council on all matters policy affecting local authori- which have major financial lications.

he council would be chaired by Secretary of State and would ude senior ministers and the lers of the local authority asso- ions, with senior officials from sides meeting in support.

he Secretary of State for Scot- l will be in touch with the convention of Scottish local orities about broadly similar sultative arrangements in Scot- l. Related arrangements will made for Wales.

rough this new machinery ral and local government ld establish a closer mutual erstanding of the constraints er which they each have to ate.

ch will be able to contribute, e directly and effectively than re, to the difficult but urgent y decisions which will be ssary; and together they will able to do the necessary itoring. The new council will faced in its first year with aring for the unavoidably gent rate support grant settle- for 1976-77.

soon as discussions on the of the new council have been leted the Secretary of State he Environment will be mak- full statement to the House. oking beyond 1976-77, there at best only be very restricted for overall growth in public nditure. Nevertheless, we shall to ensure, by a careful re- sment of needs and priorities e 1975 public expenditure re- which will take account of atest assessment of the econo- prospects, that the most tial needs are met as far as ble.

this context I want to empha- hat the Government are fully ious of the special needs of ies with children. That is as I announced in my Budget ment last November, we have the increase in family ances to £1.50 a week which ust come into effect, the lit- e being subject to normal ion only. This is the first in- e in family allowances since

## ild cash owances

lso said last November that Government would carry out commitment to introduce a scheme of child cash allow- or child benefits, payable ll children including the first, on as resources and the prac- tics of administration allowed. have now decided that, sub- to parliamentary approval of necessary legislation, the ne will be introduced in 1977. (Conservative laugh- This is in fact the earliest y which it is administratively cable to extend family its to all of the seven million es which will be eligible— than three million more than now receiving family allow-

h a scheme is, of course, tially expensive; and against ackground of the economic ects and the resulting need d back planned expenditure, I have already described, all need to accommodate its within the total which, in the of future reviews, we con- that we can devote to public diture at large in the years d 1976-77.

ough we cannot introduce ll scheme before 1977, we ke earlier action to help one of families—namely one- families (Labour cheers)— we think it will be generally ed have a claim to this addi- suport in advance of others. herefore propose, subject to parliamentary approval, troduce an interim benefit wil. in effect extend family nces at the new rate of £1.50 to the first children of one- families, who do not v receive an equivalent t, for example in the d mother's allowance. The t will be treated for tax just amily allowance.

Interim benefit will begin il 1976 and will be replaced ear later by child benefits the new scheme. One- families will thus be the benefit from our commit- o extend family support to st child in each family. The expenditure cost in 1976-77 e about £23m.

necessary legislation to en- oth these benefits to be t into effect will be intro- by the Secretary of State course.

## provement in npanies

ow turn to the tax changes must accompany these cuts lic expenditure if we are to then our economy and main- r political and social priori- First, the company sector, particular the position of rial and commercial com- . The past year has been icult one. I recognized this November Budget state- In particular I noted the ms caused by inflation, and osed two measures designed ieve companies of some of pressures.

this coming year there is l agreement that the finan- sition of the company sector mprove compared with the ear, though inevitably there bt and uncertainty about the of this improvement. There gns that this improvement egun. It is encouraging that gh demand for bank credit lly has been slack in months, bank lending to acturing industry has been g up relatively well.

re has also been a good se to the arrangements nced in November for mak- additional funds available h Finance for Industry. ations for loans totalling have already been made ome £100m already granted. is evidently well placed to a significant contribution to ry's needs for medium-term e. In addition there has of been the very welcome re- in the stock market since urn of the year, and the ects for raising new equity l are now considerably er than they were in nber.

CBI agree that prospects somewhat better, but they ather less improvement than ld myself expect. I recog- hat the company sector taken whole, has faced a period ancial deficits, which it fin- anced largely through borrowing from the banks.

In recent weeks the opportunity has been taken to fund some of this borrowing through new issues. Even so, companies' net short-term liabilities for some time yet are likely to continue to represent an abnormally large proportion of total turn-over.

The company sector is the major source of employment in Britain (Conservative cheers) and of goods and services for domestic consumption and investment as well as exports. In the long run our growth prospects, and prosperity, depend on the company sector being able and willing to invest in new plant and machinery and equipped therefore, to meet overseas competition on an equal footing.

The Government has committed itself in its White Paper on the Regeneration of British Industry to the creation during the next decade of a vigorous, alert, responsible and profitable private sector (Conservative cheers) within our mixed economy. I emphatically endorse this commitment.

At the same time companies must be expected to make an adequate contribution to the finance of the public sector. Companies do not operate in a vacuum, but in an environment in which facilities are provided by central and local government; the nationalized industries provide them with more of the goods and services they need (Conservative laughter) just as the education system and the social services benefit their work force.

The stock relief measures and the Price Code relaxations which I introduced last November will greatly improve the financial position of the corporate sector this year. A number of further proposals for relief have been put to me. I have examined them very carefully but I have felt bound to weigh them against the need to improve the financial balance of the public sector, and to ensure that the burden of adjustment is spread as equitably as possible.

Moreover, too many of the proposed changes—particularly suggestions that Corporation Tax should be reduced—lack selectivity. I favour a selective approach, covering measures of the kind I propose in this Budget.

In the long run the strategy which underlines this Budget will redound to the benefit of the company sector, since it will contribute towards an economic environment in which industry can invest with confidence.

For these reasons I have concluded that no new general reliefs should be introduced this year. I have indeed considered whether, on the contrary, there is a case for seeking an increase in the tax contribution of the corporate sector.

But, although the financial outlook is beginning to improve, companies are still feeling the effects of a period of financial deficits and I do not want to do anything which might prejudice the prospects of industrial investment this year.

## Corporation Tax the same

I propose, therefore, to leave the rate of Corporation Tax unchanged at the 52 per cent which I introduced in March last year. The rates for small companies, cooperatives and building societies will also remain the same.

I do not propose, however, to repeat the advance Corporation Tax supplement this year. This will avoid adding to the liquidity problems of those companies that pay dividends and, therefore, ACT in the current financial year. Moreover, as I reminded the House several times last year, the surcharge introduced in my 1974 Budget will reduce the tax bill of companies this year, when the reduction in business activity makes this particularly welcome.

There is one way in which I propose to help company finance, though this will not come as a surprise. The House will remember that when I introduced a measure of relief from Corporation Tax in the autumn which was related to increases in stock valuations, I promised similar action again this spring.

The financing problems of traders who replace their trading stock in times of inflation are very serious. They would be aggravated if tax had to be paid on profits calculated in terms of the traditional methods of stock valuation.

My autumn proposals therefore gave relief for the abnormal inflationary element in the stock valuation, a relief which added some £800m to company resources, and I then gave a pledge that some similar relief would be given again this year.

In order to obtain the maximum immediate impact from the autumn stock relief, it was made retrospective in the sense that it related to accounting periods ending in the year 1973-74—that is, to the period on which the tax bills becoming payable this last winter were generally based.

For practical reasons I could not make it available to all businesses but had to limit it to companies which carried considerable amounts of stock. I promised that this year I would include all traders in my proposals and would take account of the fact that those who had not benefited in the autumn had had to wait for their relief.

The relief given in the autumn was deliberately simple in design, for it was intended as a temporary measure until we can examine the recommendations of the Sandilands Committee on accounting for inflation. They will be looking at many other things besides stock valuation, but this must be an important element in their studies. The committee has not yet reported and I think the best course this year is to continue relief on very much the same lines as before.

I propose therefore that this year's relief should be given on the lines of my autumn formula measuring the stock increase over two years however instead of one only, but altering the scope of the relief in certain respects, for example excluding land held as an investment and including professional work in progress.

For unincorporated businesses and those companies which did not qualify for relief in the autumn, relief will thus be available for the increase in stock valuations over the two years as a whole, less 10 per cent of the aggregate trading profits of the two years. The relief will be given in the assessment for the second year, that is to say for an unincorporated business in the assessment for 1975-76 and for companies in the assessments on accounting periods ending in the financial year 1974.

To implement my promise that I would give some compensation to those traders who have had to wait a year for relief, I propose that for them there should be a separate and further deduction from taxable profits equivalent to 5 per cent of the amount of the stock relief itself.

For those companies who have already had relief under the autumn proposals the relief due this year will be measured by the company's history over the two years on the same basis as for unincorporated businesses. The relief they have received this year will be taken into account in the assessment for the second year.

The measures I have announced will mean a continuing improvement in the financial position of companies. This is both necessary and desirable. We need a strong and financially healthy industrial sector able and willing to invest funds in new plant and machinery to provide new jobs, and in working capital and stocks to support existing operations. This is particularly important in the period before the expected upturn in world trade next year.

There is one other matter that I should refer to—affecting oil companies. In the White Paper on United Kingdom offshore oil and gas policy, published on July 11 1974, it was announced that it was intended that the losses that had accrued to oil companies from transactions at artificial prices in overseas oil should cease to be allowable against profits arising after that date. The Finance Bill will contain the provisions to implement that intention.

## Higher rate of VAT

I turn now to indirect taxation. At a time when some sacrifices are required of all of us, the consumer has to play his part, particularly where less essential expenditure is concerned.

I start with VAT. As I explained in my Budget statement in March last year, the structure of VAT which we inherited from the previous administration suffered from the major inadequacy of its dependence on a single positive rate. I recognized that adequate preparation was essential if a change in this structure was not to cause excessive difficulties to traders, and accordingly, I authorized Customs and Excise to consult representative trade bodies.

In preparing my proposals this year, I have taken careful account of all the views which have been expressed, particularly those relating to difficulties for retailers.

The House will recall that in November last year I introduced a special rate of 25 per cent VAT on petrol, and I have now decided to make this 25 per cent rate a more general feature of the VAT system, by taxing a wider range of goods at this higher rate.

I recognize that very few classes of goods are now generally accepted to be luxuries. Their sales are limited and, because of this, a higher rate of tax restricted to such goods would produce relatively little additional revenue. It is therefore inevitable that the higher rate has also to cover some goods which are used in most homes.

However, I have concentrated on the less essential items, so that the better off, who buy more of these goods, particularly of the expensive kinds, will bear a larger share of the tax burden.

I have also concentrated, as far as possible, on items which represent large or fairly large purchases and are usually purchased separately, rather than on small items that are commonly sold across the counter in corner shops and other small, mixed businesses.

This, I hope, will minimize the impact of my proposals upon small retailers, such as newsagents and chemists, whose difficulties I fully understand and whose hard work in adapting themselves to the new responsibilities of VAT I very gratefully acknowledge.

## From TV sets to furs

Accordingly I propose that from May 1 the 25 per cent rate of VAT should apply not only to petrol but also to most domestic electrical appliances, other than cookers, space heaters and fitted water heaters; to radios, television sets, hi-fi and similar equipment; to boats—(loud laughter)—aircraft and caravans, other than those which are at present zero-rated; to cameras and binoculars; and to furs and jewelry.

Full details of my proposals are set out in the Budget resolutions.

The 25 per cent rate is not out of line with other countries' VAT structures. Belgium also has a top rate of 25 per cent; Italy has 30 per cent; France 33 1-3 per cent and the Irish Republic 36.75 per cent.

Sir Geoffrey Howe suggested the other day that half a million small shopkeepers might be driven out of business by a multi-rate VAT system and that thousands of extra civil servants would be needed to administer it. He allowed his imagination too free a rein; though perhaps this is easier to understand and to forgive since it was under a government of his party that the purchase tax reached its maximum complication of seven different rates. No doubt he was envisaging something comparable in VAT terms.

Nothing like half a million shopkeepers will be affected by my proposals. It is difficult to make a precise estimate of the numbers who will be affected, since, of course, one has to take account of secondary lines of business as well as of the main trade classifications, but I would expect that the total number of retail businesses affected might be 50,000 at the very most.

As regards numbers of civil servants, last spring I approved an increase of 2,250 staff for the Customs and Excise for work on the control and administration of VAT making a total of nearly 11,000 to be employed on this tax. This figure included an allowance of 1,000 for the contingency of a multi-rate VAT. At present there are still some 500 posts to be filled, but when this is complete I do not expect more staff to be required because the 25 per cent rate is now to be extended beyond petrol.

I do not propose any change in the standard rate of VAT, which will thus remain at 8 per cent.

However, I should mention a small change I am proposing to make in the VAT regulator. At present this provides for variations by order within overall limits set 20 per cent either side of the rate in force at the time. This means that, with the standard rate at 8 per cent, full use of the regulator up or down would produce the inconvenient rates of 9.6 or 6.4 per cent. Accordingly I shall be moving a resolution to increase the limit for variation by order to 25 per cent on either side of the going rates. This will mean that the use of the regulator would result in a standard rate between 6 per cent and 10 per cent.

I estimate that my proposals for extending the 25 per cent rate will bring in an additional £325m of revenue from VAT in a full year.

In the last 12 months I have relieved from VAT aids for the disabled, protective boots and helmets, and charitable donations of medical and scientific equipment.

I realize that many MPs are hoping that I shall be able this afternoon to announce more reliefs from VAT for articles or activities to which they attach particular importance. I have considered most carefully and with much sympathy the many cogent arguments which have been put forward on their behalf.

It is with the greatest reluctance that I have been forced to conclude that I cannot propose any reliefs from VAT at a time when I am looking for such sacrifices in other fields.

I reminded the House a year ago that the Customs and Excise revenue duties on alcoholic drinks and tobacco are levied not as a percentage of price, like VAT, but as specific sums on given quantities of the goods concerned.

I said then that I was tempted to restore the real value of these duties to what they had been five years earlier, but because of the substantial net rise in the retail price index that would result, and because of the increased pressure this would have meant on the threshold provisions introduced by the previous Government, I resigned myself to a more modest objective.

The effective burden of these duties, including the increases I introduced then, has been further eroded by inflation over the past year. In addition, the period has seen a reduction in the overall weight of tax on these goods—they benefited, along with other goods and services, when I felt able, last July, to reduce the standard rate of VAT from 10 per cent to 8 per cent.

Now, however, when I am forced to call for general sacrifices, when rich and poor alike face increases in essentials like rent and rates and fuel prices, it would clearly be wrong to leave untouched such forms of consumption as smoking and drinking, when the effective tax burden on them would otherwise continue to fall. Instead of changing the rate of VAT on these goods I have decided that the duties should be increased to give precise effects on the bar or retail prices of all these goods across the board.

I hope it will be appreciated that the size of these increases reflects the fact that in the circumstances of this Budget the alternative to them would have been either a higher target for the revenue from direct taxation or an increase in the standard 8 per cent rate of VAT.

I am as reluctant now as I was a year ago to increase the duty on beer, but the level of increase that I feel must be made in the burden borne by other forms of drink, and the relatively low incidence of tax on beer, persuade me that the beer drinker cannot reasonably expect to remain unaffected on this occasion.

I propose that the total tax burden—including 8 per cent VAT—should be increased by the equivalent of 2p a pint on average.

As for spirits, I recommend that the duty should be raised by an amount which, taking the consequential VAT effect into account, will produce a 64p increase in the price of a standard bottle of whisky or gin.

My proposal for all wines, including British wines, is for an increased tax burden, including VAT, equivalent to 24p on a standard bottle.

From what I have already said it will be clear that I consider some increase must also be made in the tobacco duty. Some, I know, will welcome this—indeed I believe it will be welcomed with enthusiasm and relief by anyone who watched the recent television programmes on the relationship between smoking and cancer.

When VAT is taken into account the total tax burden on most packets of 20 cigarettes will be increased by between 5½p and 10p depending on size and type—the average increase will be 7p.

## Equity in the burdens

These are large increases by any standards but I believe them to be necessary if there is to be some equity in the burdens that each consumer must bear. Indeed I know many people were surprised when my November measures did not affect these goods.

The changes in the revenue duties which I have outlined so far, and which will affect the rates of duty payable on goods cleared from midnight tonight, will yield in a full year an additional £185m from beer, £60m from spirits, £80m from wine and British wine, and £275m from tobacco duty, together with a consequential increase of £25m from the 8 per cent VAT on these goods.

Before I leave the revenue duties, I should tell the House that I think it opportune to propose a change in the structure of certain of these duties. Traditionally we have charged revenue duties on imported goods as customs duties. These duties are essentially fiscal in character, but they include a small protective element which it would be more in accord with our general commercial policy to charge under tariff legislation.

If we are still in the EEC at the beginning of next year we shall not be able to treat revenue duties on imported goods as customs duties. But we shall be able to continue to raise whatever revenue we need by charging excise duties on imports.

In fact this is a change of practice well worth making whether or not we remain in the EEC and the Finance Bill will contain proposals to this end. There are five Budget Resolutions which provide the necessary foundation for this legislation. Though it may appear rather complex, it is essentially a legal restructuring; but it will involve some recasting of the duties on wine of fresh grapes and other wines.

The revenue and price effects will be negligible, and there will be a valuable gain in flexibility in international negotiations for the future.

I have no changes to propose in the levels of betting and pool betting duties which were increased last year. But I do consider that changes are now needed in other areas. The rate of bingo duty has remained unchanged since its introduction more than five years ago, and I propose that the basic rate should be increased to 5 per cent with effect from September 29, 1975.

Changes in the structure of gaming licence duty have been urged on me, and I am proposing here to restructure the duty so that it depends upon the current ratable values of gaming premises, and so as to provide for a smoother gradation in the various rate bands. But I take this opportunity to increase the level of the duty from October 1 next when existing licences will have expired.

I also recommend changes in the tax burden on gaming machines. I propose that the net "take" on these should be liable to the standard rate of VAT from November 1, but that this should be partly offset in respect of licences issued after the end of September by some abatement of the present duty rates on second and subsequent machines installed on individual premises and on holiday season licences.

The overall effect of my proposals in the gaming and bingo fields is estimated to increase the yield by £12m in a full year.

The total effect of all changes in Customs and Excise duties and taxes is estimated at £965m in a full year.

## Petrol price unaffected

It will be apparent that I have so far made no mention of the hydrocarbon oil duty. MPs will know that a variety of suggestions have been put to me for altering the structure of taxation on road fuel, and indeed on road use in general.

At the same time I have had regard to the fact that the tax burden borne by the private motorist has been increased twice in the past year, firstly by bringing petrol within the coverage of the VAT standard rate, and then by subjecting it to a VAT rate of 25 per cent. These changes, together with the recent increases in the pre-tax price of petrol, will have been particularly severe on those who need to make full use of their cars—those in rural areas or on shift work, for example.

I have also taken account of the present depressed state of the motor industry, which is suffering both from the general recession in world trade and from the direct effects of the worldwide increase in petrol prices.

It is against this background that I have considered suggestions for increases in road fuel duty, or for the introduction of a two-tier petrol pricing system, as possible ways of achieving energy savings, or increasing Government revenue, or both.

I have, however, come to the conclusion that further tax-induced price increases for petrol, with the same sort of distributional impact on people as the price increases over the last 18 months, should be avoided at this time. This includes two-tier petrol pricing which, if it were to have any appreciable impact on consumption, would require a large tax-induced increase in the price of all but a modest basic allocation for each motorist.

Accordingly there will be no increase in road fuel duties, and two-tier petrol pricing will not be introduced. Petrol consumption has reacted appreciably to recent price increases and seems now to be running some 10 per cent below what would have been expected on the basis of pre-1973 trends.

Obviously, future tax increases on road fuel cannot be ruled out, should the economic situation, or the energy supply position, require this.

Nevertheless, I have concluded that I cannot, in our present difficult circumstances, avoid asking for some further contribution from road users.

I have chosen the duties on road vehicles. The vehicle excise duties have remained at their present rates since April, 1968, since which time the general price level has increased by about 80 per cent. Thus even if I were to double the duties, I would be doing little more than restoring the relative burden of them to the level set in the spring of 1968.

## £40 duty on cars

In practice, however, I doubted whether I would be justified in going so far. Accordingly, I am proposing an increase in the rate of duty on private cars from £25 a year to £40 a year; the same 60 per cent increase will apply to the short period licences, and to motor cycles, three-wheelers and pedestrian-controlled vehicles. These increases will bring in a further £209m in a full year.

Somewhat different considerations apply to commercial vehicles. The bulk of the burden of the duty on private cars falls directly on private consumers, and does not lead directly to any increase in prices of other goods and services bought by people who do not run cars. The duties on commercial vehicles, like other business costs, are likely to have some impact on prices in general, including export prices.

I therefore propose that the increase in duty rates for commercial vehicles should be restricted to such amounts as are necessary to keep a reasonable balance in the schedule of duty rates as a whole, including those for private cars.

This points to a minimum rate for commercial vehicles of £40 a year, which would cover all vehicles with an unladen weight of less than 16 cwt; the lowest rate of duty, now charged on vehicles under 12 cwt, will be amalgamated with that for vehicles in the 12 to 16 cwt category.

All other commercial vehicles, including farmers' goods vehicles and showmen's vehicles will be subject to duty increases of one third in present rates.

The duty on hackney carriages will be increased from £12 to £20 a year, but in order to avoid any substantial increases in the costs of public transport, the additional charge for every seat above 20 in a passenger carrying vehicle will remain at 50p a year. These increases in commercial vehicle duties will yield £61m a year, making total increases in the full year yield of the vehicle excise duties of £270m.

Together with the increases in Customs and Excise duties and the extension of the 25 per cent rate of VAT, these increases in vehicle excise duties will bring the total increase in the RPI generated by the Budget to about 2¾ per cent in the next three months or so.

I greatly regret the need to raise the level of the price index in this way when inflation is already high. But the House must understand that in nearly all cases these increases in indirect taxation are in practice the effect rather than the cause of inflation.

If taxes fixed years ago in money terms are not regularly raised to take account of the rate of inflation the only alternative is either a further increase in the level of direct taxation—which in the present situation means personal income tax—or in forms of indirect taxation levied as a percentage of price, like VAT, which are already rising automatically as inflation takes its course.

Since increases in the income tax and in the standard rate of VAT would affect rich and poor alike, I thought it better to concentrate the tax increases in those areas of indirect taxation which affect less necessary expenditure or which have fallen heavily in real terms because of inflation in recent years.

None of these increases touch essential goods but they are all necessary because as a nation we are at present living beyond our means. For this reason attempts to offset them, or any other tax measures, through pay increases would be wrong, damaging, and in the end self-defeating.

I am arranging for the effect of the duty increases on the index to be monitored specially in the coming months. The results will be published monthly.

I now turn to personal taxation. The House has tackled a very heavy programme of financial legislation over the past 12 months. In order to lighten the load on this year's Finance Bill, I have thought it right to impose a strict order of priorities, and accordingly to postpone some measures which in another year I would have regarded as highly desirable.

Our programme, set out in the manifesto, is of course the programme for a Parliament. The measures which I announce today will represent a further instalment of that programme—and a further positive contribution to our ambition, on this side of the House, of creating a more just society.

On capital gains tax, I propose to end the so-called "bed and breakfast" arrangements whereby companies have sought to get relief for losses on shares which they had no real intention of parting with.

This will require new rules for matching shares bought and sold by companies. The Finance Bill will also put a stop to a device which goes under the name of "double banking" whereby wealthy taxpayers obtain relief for a capital loss on gilts held for more than 12 months. The new rules for both shares and gilts will apply as from today.

I know that some people take the view that with present rates of inflation the time has come to introduce indexation for capital gains tax. (Conservative cheers.) I am not yet persuaded that this would be right. (Labour laughter.) There is, however, evidence that this tax is bearing unduly heavily on those who hold assets for long periods and is too lenient on those who hold for very short periods, and over the coming year I propose to review the incidence of capital gains tax.

In this Budget I propose to give reliefs to working farmers, small businessmen and the owners of historic houses on broadly the same lines as the corresponding special concessions given for capital transfer tax.

## Agency staff on PAYE

I now turn to the direct taxes on income. It is my responsibility, as Chancellor, to ensure that the burden of taxation which I regard as necessary at the present time is shared fairly between those best able to bear it. This is not just a matter of fixing the rates of tax and of personal allowances. It has been my consistent aim to make the tax system fairer than it was when we assumed office, and this theme of fairness runs through all my proposals in the personal tax field.

First, I propose to introduce legislation in the Finance Bill to require that the Pay As You Earn system should apply to the pay of office workers and other staff engaged through agencies. (Labour cheers.) This is an area where there has been some loss of tax because of the opportunity for claiming self-employed status, and the changes I shall propose will follow broadly what has already been done in the National Insurance field.

I will also bring forward provisions to make taxable at all income levels the benefit enjoyed by an employee where his employer operates a medical insurance scheme. It think it is particularly necessary for social reasons to ensure that this type of benefit does not escape taxation.

There will also be legislation to prevent avoidance of tax by the issue of vouchers to employees instead of normal pay—though I should make it clear that it is not the Government's intention to make any change in the existing luncheon voucher concession.

Much preparatory work is required to give effect to all these changes and they will therefore take effect from the next tax year starting in April, 1976. So, too, will another measure making a procedural change in the basis under which holiday pay under certain stamp schemes is taxed.

The evasion of tax and National Insurance by many members of the so-called "Lump" in the construction industry has for a long time caused widespread resentment.

The scheme introduced in 1971 to deal with the problem set a pattern for a remedy, but experience has shown that it was not tightly enough drawn. It has been abused by those who sought to be self-employed but were unwilling to meet their consequential statutory obligations.

The Government gave a pledge in its Election Manifesto, and in the Queen's Speech, that it would deal with the problem. It is costing the Exchequer large amounts of revenue and bedevilling industrial relations in the construction industry.

For my part, I propose to implement this pledge by introducing fundamental measures to overhaul the 1971 scheme.

First, all existing certificates, which excuse certain sub-contractors from deduction of tax at source, will be withdrawn.

Secondly, holders of certificates will have to re-apply and will have to satisfy much stricter conditions.

Thirdly, a new type of certificate will be issued which it will be very difficult to forge, steal or otherwise misuse without detection.

Fourthly, companies will be brought within the scheme, and it will no longer be possible to use them as a means of avoiding the tax deduction.

And, fifthly, the Revenue are making major changes in their policing arrangements so that they will have a firmer control of the new scheme.

My aim is to ensure that only sub-contractors who can satisfy the Revenue that they have genuine businesses and will meet their future tax liabilities in full will be entitled to be paid gross. Those who have abused the system will have to become employees if they wish to avoid the automatic deduction of tax. These new tax measures will of course complement the measures put forward by the Department of the Environment.

I propose also to deal with a form of avoidance that has been increasing during the last year or so. I refer to the number of companies offering so-called scrip options and similar schemes under which shareholders have been able to take dividends in the form of stock instead of cash and so escape liability to the higher rate income tax and investment income surcharge.

These arrangements amount to an option not to pay tax and must, I believe, be brought to an end in the interest of fiscal equity. As already announced, I propose to charge such issues of stock dividends to tax with effect from April 6 last.

Next, I gave notice last year that I shared the view, which has been gathering force in recent years, that a taxpayer is entitled to some compensation by way of interest when repayments of income tax owing to him are unduly delayed. Accordingly—and despite the very real administrative difficulties—the Finance Bill will include provision for a necessarily simplified scheme of compensation when tax repayments to individuals are delayed beyond April 5 in the year following the year of assessment.

The Bill will also include provision giving, so far as possible, comparable compensation when late repayments of tax are made to companies and other bodies within the charge to Corporation Tax.

The "repayment supplement", as it will be called, will be calculated using the same rate of interest as that attaching to underpayments of tax—currently 9 per cent—and will not be taxable. It will apply to repayments made after the Bill becomes law.

I also said last year that I intended to introduce new measures to encourage the more prompt payment of tax. The Inland Revenue has had consultations with the main representative bodies concerned about proposals in this area. I believe it is generally agreed that the present rules work very unsatisfactorily in a large number of cases.

At the extreme they permit a minority of people virtually to opt out of the tax system for months or even years at a stretch. The new rules will apply to assessments made after Royal Assent.

They will, in particular, include more effective rules for securing a reasonable payment on account and for charging interest when tax is not paid pending the result of an appeal; and also for charging interest both where large amounts of tax are delayed for a relatively short period and where smaller amounts of tax are delayed for a longer period.

## Earnings rule change

In framing these proposals I have borne in mind the representations that have been made to me about the pressures under which many businesses and accountants are working at the present time and the problems that would arise if the necessary changes attempted too much too quickly.

Before I come to the major issues of personal tax rates and allowances, there is a further point, relating to National Insurance contributions, which I must deal with.

When the House voted, against the Government's recommendation, to relax substantially the earnings rule for pensioners, I made it clear that we would have to find ways of financing this addition to our spending plans and that we should not want this burden to fall on those with low incomes. The cost is considerable.

We estimated that the extra cost to the National Insurance Fund—at the enhanced rates of benefit introduced earlier this month—will be £60m in 1975-76, £110m in 1976-77 and £145m in 1977-78.

In the coming months the Secretary of State for Social Services will be reviewing the finances of the National Insurance scheme with a view to settling the rates of contribution from April, 1976 and the earnings limit up to which these contributions are paid. In this review, she will need to take into account the extra cost imposed on the National Insurance Fund by the relaxation of the earnings rule.

The earnings ceiling for contributions will in any case need to be substantially increased in 1976 because of the increase in average earnings.

In order to recoup the extra cost of relaxing the earnings rule in 1975-76 and 1976-77 the earnings ceiling will need to be increased by up to £8 a week more than it would otherwise have been. In this way the cost will be met without imposing extra burdens on the less well-off contributors.

A major concern of any Chancellor in the personal taxation field must be the level of tax thresholds. Inflation reduces the real level of these thresholds just as it does the real level of cash payments, so that the employee or the pensioner, if nothing is done, can find that he has begun to pay tax even though in real terms, as distinct from money terms, his income has not increased.

In my Budget speech in November I made provision for the elderly by my proposal for a new age allowance, and I proposed an increase, from £130 to £180, in the blind allowance. But I then deferred my decision about the other allowances, which I undertook to review in this Budget.

## Increased tax allowances

I now propose to increase the single allowance, with the associated wife's earnings allowance by £50, from £625 to £675 and the married allowance by £90, from £865 to £955. I recognize that these changes from last year, though substantial, fall some way short of full compensation for inflation, and I would have liked to have been able to make larger increases.

But in the present situation these increases, which will cost the Revenue £437m in the first year and £546m in a full year, are as far as I can go. By taking 400,000 people out of tax they will at least ensure that some of the least well-off members of our society do not have their small incomes yet further reduced by tax deductions.

I have also decided, after careful consideration, that it would be right to accept the proposal of the Finer Committee that the additional personal allowance—which can be claimed by a single parent who is also entitled to child allowance for a child living with him—should be increased, so as to make the aggregate of the single parent's tax allowance equal to those of a married man.

I recognize that the two cases are not entirely similar, as the married allowance is an allowance for two people. Nevertheless, I think, and I am sure the House will agree, that one-parent families are a group which must command special consideration. The additional personal allowance will therefore be increased by £100, from £180 to £280, at a cost of £7m in the first year and £8m in a full year.

Apart from these changes, I propose to leave unaltered for the coming year personal tax allowances and the points at which the higher rates of tax take effect, and also the levels and rates of the investment income surcharge. I recognize that the result for most people will be, in spite of the increases in allowances I have just proposed, that the burden of income tax in the coming year will be significantly increased, because I am not adjusting the various tax levels in step with money values.

But I am afraid that my need for revenue is paramount, and I cannot offer any general relief beyond the modest increase in allowances proposed. The level of the main personal allowances will, of course, need to be looked at again in next year's Budget as has been done this year.

For the rest, I would remind the House of the undertaking the Government has already given to review the levels of the high rates of tax on earned income once the additional taxable capacity represented by ownership of wealth has been brought into charge by the wealth tax—proposals for which I shall be bringing forward, in the light of the Report of the Select Committee at present sitting under the chairmanship of Mr Douglas Jay (Wandsworth, Battersea, North). I think the House will agree that when I review the higher tax rates on earned income I should also take action to deal with fringe benefits and with tax evasion.

I come lastly to the rates of income tax for the coming year. I made it clear in my Budget speech last November that if wages rose above the level laid down in the guidelines of the TUC I would find it necessary to raise taxation in order to remove the excess demand involved.

The House knows that wages and salaries have risen overall substantially above what was envisaged by the guidelines. I therefore have no alternative but to raise the income tax as I warned five months ago. The increase I am about to announce can be regarded as an anti-inflation surcharge.

## Income tax of 35 pc

I must warn the House that similar measures may be necessary in future unless the increase in wages and salaries is kept under better control.

My proposal is to raise the basic and higher rates of income tax by two percentage points—with the exception of the highest rate of all, where the increase of eight points made last year means that the level, in cases where the 15 per cent investment income surcharge also applies, is already 98 per cent, and, where it does not, 83 per cent.

The new basic rate of income tax will therefore be 35 per cent: and there will be a corresponding adjustment in the rate of advance corporation tax. The rate of deduction from payments to uncertificated sub-contractors will also go up to 35 per cent in September.

The additional revenue from this increase in the rate will be £662m in the first year and £771m in a full year. The higher tax deductions will take effect for PAYE taxpayers in the week beginning May 25.

Because of the cumulative nature of the PAYE system, the initial effect of these changes will, I recognize, be significant, since the extra tax due as a result of the rate increase on pay received since the start of the tax year will be taken from the first pay packet after the change.

At the lowest income levels, however, the effect of the higher tax rate will be more than offset by the higher personal allowances, and the increases in the single and married allowances will take effect at the same time as the new tax rates.

The increase in the additional personal allowance will take a little longer [illegible] need to [illegible] and the new allowance will take effect on the first pay day after June 14. The elderly and the blind have, of course, benefited, from the start of the tax year, from the allowance increases I announced last November.

The combination of the measures I have announced today will reduce the public sector borrowing requirement by about £1,200m in the current year.

These then are my proposals. The House will want to know how, as they are implemented, I expect to see the economy develop.

Firstly, I look forward to 1975 being a very much better year than 1974 for the balance of payments. We have made a good start in the first quarter, though the figures for March were favourably distorted by the London dock strike. For 1975 as a whole, despite the fall in world trade, there are good prospects that our deficit will be at least a billion pounds lower than in 1974. The non-oil deficit on the current account will have turned into a substantial surplus.

## Cost inflation in pipeline

Secondly, the outlook for prices. The adjustment for the cost inflation already in the pipeline still has some way to run. Rent and rate increases are already under way. Nationalized industry prices are now reflecting increases in wage and other costs more fully.

Mainly by adjusting the excise duties to reflect past inflation my Budget measures themselves will put up the RPI by about 2¾ per cent. This means that for some months yet we must expect high figures for the RPI compared with 12 months previously.

However, the year on year figures published every month are slow to reflect a change of trend, and may sometimes mask it completely. By the middle of the year, once the increases I have mentioned have been digested, and the effects of lower food and commodity prices are feeding through, I would expect the rate of increase in the month on month index to begin to fall.

In fact there are good prospects that between about June and December the cost of living will rise on average by not much more than 1 per cent a month, implying an annual rate of the order of 12 to 16 per cent.

But as the House will realize, these figures will not be achieved if there is any acceleration in wage and salary increases.

Thirdly, for the public finances I expect the borrowing requirement in 1975-76 to be about £9 billion.

Though higher in money terms than last year, as a proportion of gross domestic product it should be about the same—about 10 per cent. Though this figure is large, my concern at its size is mitigated by two considerations.

In the first place the tax measures I have announced today will even at constant prices yield more revenue in a full year than in 1975-76: and the public expenditure reductions, which will not affect the borrowing requirement to any significant extent this year, will have their impact in 1976-77.

For that year I see good prospects that the borrowing requirement will be significantly lower as a proportion of GDP, since my

Continued on page 8

PARLIAMENT, April 15, 197

# Chancellor ...ary ...has resources ...nflation

House of Commons

MR HEALEY, Chancellor of ... Exchequer (Leeds, East, Lab) ... his Budget statement said: ...ried to presented my first Bu... over a year ago Britain ... to recog... taneously emerging ...rates of tax... months of three-day ...enditure, the entering a period ...ment would be and the world ... still if exports bound to be ... extent that output effects of ...ment at home could crease in ... full employment condi... three-day ... crated ... devel... exports would mean ... incomes and higher tax ...pts out of those incomes, to the benefit of the economy as a whole and the public finances in particular. Under conditions of full employment brought about in this way the borrowing requirement would be some billions of pounds less than my present forecast.

These two considerations, therefore, both lead me to view my forecast public sector borrowing requirement without alarm, but they do, of course, make it more necessary than ever for us to follow the strategy I have laid down today over the next two or three years.

The income tax changes will be of particular benefit to lower income taxpayers, especially one-parent families. Altogether nine million taxpayers or 35 per cent of the total will pay less income tax as a result of the Budget; this figure includes families with two children up to around average earnings. The increases in indirect taxation on inessentials will raise prices, but the impact will vary depending on how much people choose to spend on such goods.

Allowing for the fall in income tax paid by lower income families, and bearing in mind the earlier decisions to increase family allowance and to introduce fully graduated insurance contributions, poor families will be affected least of all by my strategy of moving resources away from private consumption. Taking the measures as a whole I am confident that their impact will be fair and progressive.

The effect of the Budget measures on employment has given me great concern, since I absolutely reject the use of mass unemployment as an instrument of policy, and this year employment will be seriously affected in any case by the world recession springing from the oil crisis.

It is particularly difficult to forecast the unemployment figures, though so far the record of my Treasury advisers has been better than that of most outsiders. With all the necessary caution I predict that, given a continuing low level of trade in 1975, the pressure of demand in the United Kingdom will continue easing and unemployment will continue to rise for the remainder of the year.

I must warn the House that it could be touching a million, or 4 per cent, by the end of the year. The Budget measures will reduce demand in 1975 by about £330m and may be responsible for about 20,000 out of the total unemployed—about a fiftieth of the million.

This is part of the price we have to pay for inflation at current levels. But in 1976, as world trade begins to grow vigorously again, I would expect to see a reversal of this trend set in and a continuing fall in the number of unemployed.

I repeat, however, what I said earlier, namely, that if the stronger countries fail to expand their economies sufficiently, I shall have to consider very carefully what measures I should take to maintain employment in Britain. I pledge myself in any case to take steps to increase employment once our inflation rate has settled down to the international average.

The Budget I have presented today is a hard one for all of us in Britain. It is dictated by the harsh reality of the world we live in.

A severe Budget is a necessary element in any strategy for improving the overall performance of our economy, which has been lagging increasingly behind most industrial economies for more than a single generation. Added to the need for measures to produce the essential structural changes in the balance of our economy are the burdens we carry with other countries because the explosion of world prices has cut our real income by 4 per cent. But in this situation the key to our immediate success is the rate of inflation inside Britain. It is our failure here which is responsible for the special severity of this Budget.

So long as pay and prices increase at their present rates, no Chancellor of the Exchequer who puts his country first could act otherwise than I have done this afternoon. The situation would be very different if through improvements in productivity and moderation in pay negotiations we could substantially reduce our inflation rate.

With lower wage settlements and a consequential improvement in the balance of payments we could have the same standard of living with lower prices, lower taxes and more jobs. At the same time we should have a sounder currency, a better assurance of international credit and a greater degree of that business confidence which is a precondition of the investment we need most of all.

There is a better alternative to the stony road we have to follow at present. It requires only a sustained act of will to take it: an act of will from which no section of the community—on the shop floor, in the boardroom or in the home—can stand aside.

If this Budget helps to convince the British people of this fact it will have performed a long-term service to our nation even more important than the solution of the problems which are its immediate aim.

## Parliamentary notices

House of Lords

Today at 2.30: *Debate on growth of multinational corporations. Debatable question on world food crisis.*

House of Commons

Today at 2.30: *Debate on the Budget. Motion on Eggs Authority (Rates of Levy) Order.*

# Mrs Thatcher: Typical Socialist Budget–equal misery for all

MRS MARGARET THATCHER, Leader of the Opposition (Barnet, Finchley, C), speaking immediately after Mr Healey said the Chancellor had spoken for two-and-a-quarter hours. He had been drinking the strongest brew she had seen a Chancellor take. He must be the last person to take a sip at the old price.

In all her experience she had never found a Budget which put so much extra tax on the British people at one go. It was a typical socialist Budget—equal shares of misery for all.

There was some difficulty about how to adjudge what the Chancellor said. In his Budget speech last year he gave vigorous comments about the borrowing requirement. He was going to be really tough. He was going to reduce it to some £2,700m. He said he was just about going to halve it. When he said he was going to halve it, what he did in practice was just about to double it.

After all the steps he had taken this year he was going to have a public sector borrowing requirement of some £9 billion.

If they judged the Chancellor by his doubling everything which he said he was going to halve, it made it difficult to know precisely what effect this Budget would have.

He seemed to talk tough but delayed some of his tough measures until next year, although he had put a fair share of tough measures on to this year.

Clearly the Chancellor had three main problems, public expenditure, inflation, and borrowing. The key to them was the first two. He inherited from the Conservatives public expenditure reductions. He deliberately frittered those away by putting up public expenditure in real terms over the last year. That was the reason he was in such difficulty now.

His problem lay not in his predecessors' but his own actions. If he had not put up public expenditure as much Britain would not have such a high rate of inflation—(Conservative cheers)—and he would not have to take such severe steps to deal with it.

Many people would prefer a lower level of taxation and a lower level of public expenditure. (Conservative cheers.)

The Chancellor was saying in different words what George Bernard Shaw had said: "Under socialism you won't get what you like so you have to like what you get."

Britain's record on inflation was much worse than for other countries because they took steps to deal with it before. Britain did not. The Chancellor had taken virtually no steps to deal with inflation and still had no strategy to deal with it.

He is (she said) relying on a social contract which is by almost every sentence in his speech neither contractual nor social. It has borne heavily on those who did not get the large increases in wages and salaries, but nevertheless will have to pay the increased prices and the increased burdens. (Renewed Conservative cheers.)

When it came to borrowing, the Chancellor had nearly run out of the goodwill of his overseas lenders.

On taxation measures, in the company sector the Conservatives agreed on the need to get more investment, but there would only be more investment with a change of attitude towards profitability and investment. (Conservative cheers.)

Britain had the best VAT method in the world, having the single rate with the zero rate. Undoubtedly what the Chancellor had proposed would put a considerable extra burden on the shopkeeper and an extra administrative burden on Customs and Excise and on the costs of bureaucracy.

One of the Chancellor's most severe measures was to put up income tax.

When you shear sheep (she said) you do stop when you come to the skin. (Laughter.) But it is not a lesson that the Chancellor has yet learnt. He is fleecing people when he is practically down to the skin.

People have virtually come to the end of the extra tax they are prepared to yield up to the Government.

The Foreign Secretary (Mr Callaghan) when he was Chancellor had introduced a Budget which he had summed up as "Steady as she goes".

May I (she continued) sum up that of Mr Healey by saying this one is "Steady as she sinks". (Prolonged Conservative cheers.)

# Libya told that Britain would not supply submarines: relations not strained

MR GOLDING (Newcastle under Lyme, Lab), questioning the Secretary of State for Defence on cuts in defence expenditure, said—Many Labour MPs are concerned about the loss of jobs. Has any trade union made representations to him in support of the cuts or for intensification of the cuts?

MR MASON (Barnsley, Lab).—No. But representations have been made from trade unionists that the cuts are excessive.

MR YOUNGER (Ayr, C).—Thousands of redundancies which are not declared in the defence White Paper are being compounded by the shambles of the Government's policy on arms sales.

The sales are immensely important for jobs. Customers abroad do not know what they can buy from us and our firms do not know to whom they can export.

MR MASON—The Defence Sales Organization and the defence sales are not in a shambles. While he may follow glib and dramatic press reports, defence sales are doing extremely well. The Defence Sales Organization this year is selling abroad £560m of equipment, equivalent to between 70,000 and 80,000 jobs.

Export orders well in excess of that figure are in the pipeline, ready to be answered.

The official procurement officer of the Libyan Government was informed at the end of April that we could not sell them submarines. The minister from the Libyan embassy was told on April 3 at the Foreign Office that we could not allow that order.

In the special circumstances at the time, the Libyan Government has accepted it amicably and there are no strained relations between us.

A middle man, an entrepreneur, who has been lobbying frantically members of the House of Lords and MPs, is not an official spokesman for the Libyan Government and has no right to speak on their behalf.

MR WARREN (Hastings, C)—An order to the Indian Government worth £500m was lost because the Labour Party refused to endorse the export of Jaguar aircraft there. Why has the Defence Sales Organization told Hawker Siddeley to stay out of Persia?

Tens of thousands of people in the aircraft industry and associated industries are going to lose their jobs in the next year because the Labour Party will not hear their supporters.

MR MASON—With some countries one has to reckon with ECGD and credit worthiness. We have proved to be one of the major suppliers of Iran. We have vast defence sales, and they are growing.

During later questions to the Prime Minister,

MR WALTERS (Westbury, C)—As exports are vital to the British economy, and British influence is strengthened by supplying our equipment, and as in the past we have supplied submarines to Israel, will Mr Wilson assure us he will not allow his personal sympathies to interfere with British interests.

MR HAROLD WILSON (Huyton, Lab)—I did not myself interfere in this matter because decisions had been taken by the departments under the policy approved by the Government and announced to the House on June 10 last year.

When I received a letter from a peer about the particular case, I said I would look into it, and I did. I found a decision had already been taken. I understand from the press today that the Libyans themselves had decided not to go ahead with submarines—even if the Government approved—several months before on commercial and price grounds. I applaud and agree with what was done by the Minister for Defence (Mr Mason) and the Foreign Office under the policy announced by the Government.

I would be surprised if Mr Walters was advocating sending arms indiscriminately to Libya, not only because of the policy of maintaining a strict policy in relation to the Middle East, but because of Libyan sales of arms to the IRA.



# Peers seek no clash on freedom of press

House of Lords

The Trade Union and Labour Relations (Amendment) Bill was read the third time.

On the motion that the Bill should pass,

LORD HAILSHAM OF ST MARYLEBONE (C) said it would be a travesty of the truth if it were ever suggested that Conservative peers desired to have a confrontation with the Government or with the Commons. On the contrary, there had been those in his party and outside it who had said they had gone too far the other way.

The House of Lords had a constitutional duty to perform. That duty was not performed by remaining passive when they saw serious erosions of basic freedom, the rule of law and constitutional principle and a threat—possibly unintended but still a threat—to the freedom of the press and freedom of expression.

The House would have seen the letter, powerfully supported, in *The Times* today which gave effect to the doubts which were felt of the intentions of the Labour Party.

The Bill would return to the Commons and he hoped the Government would not be precipitate in the matter. He hoped they would give careful weight to the public opinion which had been ranged against it outside Parliament.

He hoped that when the Government had reflected on the matter the House would not be met with an obdurate or unbending attitude. (Conservative cheers.)

LORD HOUGHTON OF SOWERBY said that the National Union of Journalists' executive committee went out of their way while the Bill was under debate to dispel fears upon which Lord Goodman's case rested heavily. It augured ill for the future of industrial relations when a majority of the House could be persuaded to endorse the spread of mistrust which had been translated into the Bill.

No law should be passed in Parliament which could not be enforced.

LORD SHEPHERD, Lord Privy Seal, said the freedom of the press was not at issue here. The Government supported freedom of the press to the full and what was at issue was the methods by which it was to be maintained.

The motion was agreed to.

The Mental Health (Amendment) Bill, to strengthen the Mental Health Act, 1959, to enable potentially dangerous patients to be detained in institutions, which has been through the Commons, was read a second time.

House adjourned, 5.28 pm.

## Home Office hostel advice

Hostels and homes, whether for alcoholics, drug addicts, the elderly, physically handicapped or mentally ill, should be sited in well established communities, despite possible local opposition, a Home Office note for local planning authorities issued yesterday says.

Development Control Policy Note 15: *Hostels and Homes*. (Stationery Office, 5p).

WEST EUROPE

Princess Grace of Monaco, escorted by M Michel Guy, French Minister for Cultural Affairs, leaving the Madeleine Church in Paris yesterday, after the funeral Mass for Josephine Baker, who died last week, aged 69.

# 'Wine into alcohol' agreement ends Franco-Italian dispute

Luxembourg, April 15.—EEC agriculture ministers reached agreement tonight on the wine dispute between France and Italy, officials said.

The accord, under which several million hectolitres of surplus wine will be distilled into industrial alcohol at Community expense, will enable France to lift its ban on wine imports from Italy. This was imposed last month after violent protests from wine growers in southern France.—Reuter.

David Cross writes from Luxembourg: Mr Peart, the Minister of Agriculture, today sought to restore confidence within the British fishing industry by calling on his EEC partners for an urgent reappraisal of the Community's fishing policy.

But after a short discussion among Ministers of Agriculture of the Nine it became clear that any radical changes would have to await the outcome of the Geneva Law of the Sea Conference later this year.

Mr Peart, who has joined his colleagues in the Grand Duchy for an emergency session to resolve the Franco-Italian wine dispute, said it was certain the powers of coastal states and fishing limits would be radically changed after the Geneva conference. Uncertainty over the outcome of that conference and the possibility of some countries unilaterally extending their fishing limits, in the meantime, was seriously worrying fishermen in Britain and other parts of the Community.

For these reasons, the Community must begin to think about how its existing fisheries policy should be updated to take account of probable future changes in fishing limits.

Solution of the wine dispute tonight will enable the Commission to drop the legal case it has opened against the French Government for breaking the Community's free movement rules.

Richard Wigg writes from Paris: Thousands of winegrowers in south-west France today blocked main roads and burnt old tyres on railway lines to keep up pressure on the Agricultural Ministers of the Nine. Traffic on the Marseilles to Nice railway line was stopped. Seven tankers transporting wine were also stopped last night, and, even though the wine was chiefly from Corsica, taps were opened and the wine left to flow away.

# Kidnap man chained to bed for 29 weeks

From Patricia Clough

Rome, April 15

Signor Francesco Madonia, heir to a wealthy Sicilian landowning family, was released today in poor health, after 29 weeks in captivity, one of the longest and cruellest kidnapping incidents in recent Italian history.

Signor Madonia, aged 29, was set free on a mountain road near Monreale. He appears to have been kept chained to a bed in the dark the whole time in what is believed to have been a cave or hut in the mountains behind Palermo. He was suffering from malnutrition and unable to face questioning by the police and the press, or even to face the light.

He was released after Signor Giuseppe Garda, his 73-year-old grandfather, sold virtually all his possessions, including vineyards and citrus and olive groves, to raise the ransom which was rumoured to be around 1,000m lire (about £70,000).

In Saronno, Northern Italy, last night, Signor Luigi Basilico, aged 61, a wealthy shop owner, fought off three would-be kidnappers. He shouted and struggled so much that his attackers fled, apparently for fear of attracting attention.

# 'Tosca' without props is La Scala triumph

From Our Correspondent

Milan, April 15

Signor Paolo Grassi, superintendent of La Scala opera house, turned what might have been a defeat into a triumph when *Tosca* was performed last night without scenery or costumes.

It was a first night and a gala performance coinciding with the opening of the Milan International Sample Fair. The theatre was booked several weeks in advance, mostly by foreign visitors.

A strike called at the last moment by scene shifters and other stage workers seemed to leave no alternative but to call the performance off. Signor Grassi decided to go ahead.

When the curtain was raised to disclose an empty stage and Cavalier Cavaradossi, played by the tenor, Placido Domingo, walked on wearing a blue blazer and grey flannel trousers, the audience, although it had been warned that it would be a "purely musical" performance, seemed bewildered.

It soon recovered and showed its appreciation by applauding warmly at the most popular passages and giving the cast an ovation at the end of the act.

The strike, which was unofficial, was called in support of a wage claim. At a press conference earlier in the day Signor Grassi gave a warning that La Scala might be compelled to close unless state subsidies for 1974 and 1975 were paid soon and unless the whole situation was reviewed and controlled by new legislation.

## Paratroops killed in canal had faulty lifejackets

By a Staff Reporter

The six British paratroops who drowned when they fell into the Kiel canal during a Nato exercise last September died because of an unpredictable change in the wind. But three of them might have survived if their inflatable lifejackets had been properly maintained.

These are the findings of an inquiry by the Army and the RAF into what went wrong.

Of the six who drowned, three, for reasons unknown, had not attempted to inflate their lifejackets while the other three jackets had not inflated because the head of the gas cylinder had not been screwed on properly, Mr Mason, Secretary of State for Defence, said in a written answer.

## Paris without newspapers as printers strike

From Our Own Correspondent

Paris, April 15

Paris was without newspapers today as the result of a 24-hour strike called by the printers' unions.

The strike, backed by both the Communist and Socialist trade union confederations, is intended to alert public opinion to the grave problems facing the French press.

Work resumed this afternoon at the state-owned Renault car firm's Le Mans plant after 76 per cent of the workers had voted to accept the management's compromise offer of a 140 francs (about £14) a month pay increase.

The industrial dispute, one of the worst to hit Renault, lasted nine weeks. The firm has lost up to 70,000 vehicles

## Toads shut an autobahn

Munich, April 15.—Police closed an autobahn in Bavaria for about eight hours today, diverting hundreds of vehicles so thousands of toads could cross safely to their spawning grounds.

They took the decision after many toads, excited by the first sunny spring day in the region, had been run over trying to cross the busy road.—Reuter.

## Bomb blast at 'Hitler' beerhall

Munich, April 15.—A bomb explosion today destroyed the entrance hall to the Munich beerhall where Hitler was nearly killed by a bomb in November, 1939.

Police have no clue as to who left the bomb nor could they see any motive.—Reuter.

# Five people are shot dead in French gangland feud

Avignon, France, April 15.—Three men burst into a restaurant in Avignon early today and shot dead five people including the owner, a convicted gangster, and his wife. A total of 18 shots were fired.

Police said that three of the people who died in what is regarded as a gangland feud, were well known to them for previous criminal activities. The restaurant owner, Michel Leduc, a former wrestling champion, had once been sentenced to 10 years in prison for armed robbery.

Police believe that the killings could be linked with the arrest of five men in Avignon last week on vice charges.

The only survivor of the shooting was a waitress who had started work in the restaurant yesterday. She was hidden when two of the dead fell on top of her.—Reuter and Agence France Presse.

# Briton to head new space agency

Brussels, April 15.—Ministerial haggling over how to pay for a rocket launch pad held up final agreement in Brussels today on establishing a new West European space agency.

Science ministers from the 10 countries involved did, however, agree that Mr Roy Gibson of Britain, should be the Director-General of the projected new agency. Eight other directorships went to officials from France, Italy, Sweden, Belgium and West Germany.

This left only the issue of finance for the rocket pad in Kourou, French Guyana, which is expected to cost about £39m. France, informed sources said, insisted that this should be resolved before the ministers approve a convention setting up the new space agency—which will be called the European Space Agency (ESA) and will come formally into being in Paris next month.

ESA is designed to replace two present bodies—the European Space Research Organization (ESRO) and the European Launcher Development Organization (ELDO). It will take over ESRO and ELDO projects costing at least £560m during the next three years, the sources said.

A Belgian delegate told reporters that some Arab countries had already shown interest in European satellites.

An artificial satellite was launched somewhere in the world every three days in 197... according to figures released in Geneva by the International Telecommunication Union (ITU) today. Only 18 of the 1... satellites in the ITU list are classified as belonging wholly or partly to the United States. The Soviet figure is 95.—Reuter.

# Phnom Penh suburb captured as net tightens on city

From Sydney Schanberg
Phnom Penh, April 15

The Cambodian insurgents were closing in on the Cambodian capital from almost all sides today as the desperate military Government in this besieged city moved frantically to try to halt their advance. It abandoned posts all around the capital's outer perimeter to rush troops to the defence of Phnom Penh.

For the second day, frightened refugees by the thousands continued to stream towards Phnom Penh, already swollen to more than two million people.

The communist-led insurgents, now less than one and a half miles from the city's edge at one point, were driving on the capital from all directions.—New York Times News Service.

**Bangkok:** Khmer Rouge insurgents tonight captured Phnom Penh's industrial suburb, according to a Cambodian Embassy spokesman in Bangkok.

He denied an insurgent radio report that the city's international airport had been captured. The radio report said Pochentong airport had been captured and Phnom Penh was on the point of collapse.

The spokesman here said Government forces pulled back more than a mile from Takhmau industrial suburb which is about three miles south of Phnom Penh.

He added that Pochentong airport came under rocket attack today but was still in Government hands. "I do not think we will lose the airfield", he said.—Reuter.

**Saigon:** Communist units probed Saigon's defensive perimeter today as unconfirmed reports of a large build-up to the east and west increased fears that a heavy assault on the capital was about to be launched.

Military experts think the attack will come within the next week or 10 days to seal the fate of the Government of President Thieu.

Western officials said the use of heavy artillery rather than the usual rockets or mortars to shell the air base at Bien Hoa, only 15 miles from Saigon, was an ominous development because it indicated that the North Vietnamese felt confident enough to move heavy artillery close to the capital.—Reuter and New York Times News Service.

The human cost of war: homeless refugees from Xuan Loc, in South Vietnam, camp outside Long Thanh.

# Congress is told Cambodia is 'lost'

From Patrick Brogan
Washington, April 15

Dr James Schlesinger, the Secretary of Defence, told a congressional committee today that "Cambodia could be considered lost". He said that Khmer Rouge forces had entered Phnom Penh, and that although Government resistance continued, the outcome was no longer in doubt.

The same fate, he said, would befall South Vietnam unless Congress provided the military aid which the President had asked for. There would be a bloodbath if the Communists took over South Vietnam.

He said that the "hard core" of those whose lives might be endangered was 200,000, and added that "estimates go as high as a million". Presumably these figures include the families of those whom the North Vietnamese might consider enemies. The evacuation plans are based upon the possible need to move 150,000-200,000 people.

The American Government has ordered the evacuation of all Americans in Saigon who do not perform "essential" services there.

There are about 5,000 Americans in what remains of South Vietnam. When the communist offensive began, there were thought to be about 6,500, but as matters grew more serious a further 2,000 or so "came out of the woodwork", in the words of American officials in the Embassy in Saigon, and asked to be repatriated.

Thus more than 3,000 Americans have already been brought out by the Government or private firms.

Dr Henry Kissinger, the Secretary of State, told the Senate appropriations committee of the proposed evacuation this morning. He was testifying on the three Bills which the President has sent to Congress; these would give military and humanitarian aid to South Vietnam and would permit the President to use American armed forces to help evacuate Americans and Vietnamese from Saigon if a communist victory were to occur.

Dr Kissinger began his testimony with a prepared statement in which he said that "large quantities of equipment and supplies, totalling perhaps $800m (£330m) were lost in South Vietnam's hasty retreat from northern and central areas". He went on to ask for $722m in military aid and $250m in humanitarian aid.

"We cannot, by our actions alone, ensure the survival of South Vietnam", he said, "but we can, alone, by our inaction, ensure its demise." He admitted that the situation was ominous

Dr Kissinger said that the money would supply what was needed to defend what remained of South Vietnam. It would re-equip four divisions, form a number of Ranger groups into divisional units, and upgrade some territorial forces into infantry regiments, for a cost of $326m.

"The balance of our request is for ammunition, fuel, spare parts and medical supplies to sustain up to 60 days of intensive combat, and to pay for the cost of transporting those items", he said.

Meanwhile, President Ford, in a speech to the Daughters of the American Revolution, denounced as nonsense what he called the "negative talk going around", that "America's best years are behind us".

# Dissolution of Laos assembly

Vientiane, April 15.—King Sri Savang Vatthana has signed an order for the dissolution of the Laotian National Assembly, it was officially announced today in the royal capital of Luang Prabang. The Government will decide shortly on the method of replacing the assembly.

The dissolution, which has been long demanded by the Laotian Patriotic Front, which has never recognized what it terms "the Vientiane Assembly", brings to an end nine months of discussions between the two Laotian sides

It was in July last year that the Government decided to dissolve the Assembly, but the illness of Prince Souvanna Phouma, the Prime Minister, enabled the Laotian right to get the problem "frozen".

On March 28, the King's Council gave its opinion, which although not frankly opposed to the dissolution, expressed numerous reservations.—Agence France-Presse.

# Fusillade of denials at Connally trial

From Fred Emery
Washington, April 15

A prosecution reduced to quibbling today failed to shake much Mr John Connally's adamant defence, and his trial for bribery moved to the final arguments stage.

In the course of a whole day on the witness stand he had taken on his own behalf, Mr Connally protested he had never imagined his sole accuser "was going to bear false witness against me".

Under cross-examination by Mr Frank Tuerkheimer, a special Watergate prosecutor, Mr Connally, the former Treasury Secretary and Governor of Texas, insisted that he paid little attention at crucial moments of the investigation because "never in my wildest dreams did I think I would be sitting here today".

The trial had been going so well for Mr Connally that one broadcaster mentioned speculation that after an acquittal Mr Connally might yet enter the Presidential stakes next year.

That was before today's session. Mr Connally concluded the examination by Mr Edward Bennett Williams, his own counsel, with a confident fusilade of fast repeated denials he had ever, as his accuser, Mr Jake Jacobsen, a former dairy co-operative lawyer, alleges, asked for, been given, or accepted the two instalments of $5,000 (about £2,075)

But Mr Connally had more difficulty with the prosecution's cross-examination, comparing his present testimony with an earlier one given before the investigating grand jury. Mr Connally is separately charged with perjury in relation to this.

Mr Jacobsen alleges he and Mr Connally concocted in the autumn of 1973 a cover up story for the bribes, and the return of the money. Mr Connally denies it; but he admits that on October 26, 1973, Mr Jacobsen, called before a grand jury, offered to swear he had never discussed with Mr Connally the matter of the $10,000 political contributions.

# Karamanlis warning of war with Turkey

From Mario Modiano
Athens, April 15

The hope that the recent change of Government in Ankara would have eased tensions between Greece and Turkey was marred by an outburst of sabre-rattling across the Aegean, this time at the level of prime ministers.

However, this friction is not likely to affect the prospect of a meeting between Mr Constantine Karamanlis, the Greek Prime Minister, and Mr Suleyman Demirel, his Turkish counterpart, in the context of the Nato summit conference next month. Such a meeting would largely depend on the initial outcome of the Cyprus talks, which are to be resumed in Vienna on April 28, as well as on other bilateral contacts in connexion with the Aegean controversy, eventually between the two foreign ministers.

Mr Demirel, who was confirmed last Saturday by a thin parliamentary majority as the head of Turkey's four-party coalition Government, took strong exception to a statement by the Greek Prime Minister proposing a boycott of Turkey by the Europeans to force her to "see logic" on the Cyprus question.

Mr Karamanlis's remarks were made during recent interviews with the French press, in view of his official visit to Paris, which begins tomorrow. This is his first foreign visit since taking over in Greece last July to restore democracy.

It is naturally a manifestation of gratitude to the country which gave him hospitality during the 11 years of his self-imposed exile, but also it underlines Greece's new independent posture within the Western community after the withdrawal from the military structure of Nato.

Mr Karamanlis told the French press: "We do not want war, but we are not prepared to submit to humiliation in order to avoid it. The sanctions imposed by Europe on the Greek dictatorship were quite effective.

"Could not the great Western powers quarantine a Government that violates systematically all the principles and resolutions adopted by international organizations?"

Mr Demirel said: "Such statements could bring relations to a new crisis, to the point of no return."

More than the friction with Ankara, what has vexed the Greeks is the open support given by the United States to Turkey.

# In brief

## Tokyo minister cut own pay

Tokyo, April 15.—Japan Cabinet ministers today agr to take a 10 per cent pay cu a token of the Governme determination to cou Budget shortages.

Mr Ichitaro Ide, the C Cabinet Secretary, said that measure would yield 1,925 yen (about £2,770) a month.

Base rate cut, page

## Border closed

Monrovia, Liberia, April —Guinea has closed its bo to Liberia for unknown rea the Government-owned n paper, *The Liberian Age* ported. The paper said has been an outcry in Gu over the visit to Liberia of Vorster, the South Afr Prime Minister.

## Protest over editor

Zurich, April 15.—The I national Press Institute has tested to Portugal over detention of Senhor R editor-in-chief of *Diario Lisboa*, described by the tute as a "known anti-fasc He was arrested on April 9 is being held at Caxias p near Lisbon.

## Elephant in the news

New Smyrna Beach, Flo April 15.—An elephant fe a newspaper delivery ve today, crushing the roof. animal had escaped fro circus, wandered to the way and fell when the d abruptly braked. Both esc injury.

## Murder in bedroom

Gainesville, Florida, April —Mrs Judith Jackson, a h wife, was charged with mu here today for allegedly se fire to her husband after prising him with a house in bed. She is recovering burns.

## Chinese executed

Peking, April 15.—A Chinese who attacked and injured the wife of a Fr Embassy official last m with a billhook was conden to death on April 11 executed immediately, authoritative source said today.

## Richard Conte dies

Los Angeles, April Richard Conte, the actor spent most of his film c playing gangsters and sa villains, died today in ho here after a heart attack was 60.



# ANC opens new office in Zambia

From Our Correspondent
Lusaka, April 15

Rhodesian nationalist leaders today were handed the keys to their new offices in the Zambian capital. Mr Vernon Mwaanga, the Zambian foreign minister, presented the keys to Bishop Abel Muzorewa, the chairman of the African National Council (ANC), during a ceremony at the new offices on the outskirts of Lusaka.

The new office replaces those operated by three other nationalist movements outlawed by Zambia.

Bishop Muzorewa and two members of his executive, Mr Joshua Nkomo and Mr James Chikerema, arrived here yesterday from Dar es Salaam, where the nationalist movement had also been presented with offices by the Tanzanian Government.

In handing over the offices Mr Mwaanga said that Zambia had a deep commitment to the liberation of Zimbabwe (Rhodesia). "The Zambian Government has demonstrated this not only in words but in actions," he said. "We are committed to majority rule before independence. We do not accept any independence which is not based on majority rule."

Bishop Muzorewa held up the keys and said: "This is a big bunch of keys but they all open one door—the door to the liberation of Zimbabwe."

The Rev Ndabaningi Sithole, the fourth ANC executive member, who was recently released from detention in Rhodesia, stayed behind in Tanzania when the rest of the delegation departed yesterday. It has not been stated in Salisbury whether Mr Sithole would be detained again if he went back to Rhodesia

# Mauritius likely to reject Stonehouse plea

Port Louis, Mauritius, April 15.—The appeal by Mr John Stonehouse, the British runaway Labour MP, for sanctuary in Mauritius is likely to be rejected by the Mauritian Government.

Sir Leckraz Teelock, the Mauritian High Commissioner in London, is believed to have told Sir Seewoosagur Ramgoolam, the Prime Minister, that Britain would view with concern any attempt to grant asylum or a passport to Mr Stonehouse.

Sir Seewoosagur today had several meetings with senior ministers. Informed sources said later that the main Cabinet tendency so far was towards rejection of the plea. The British authorities have applied in Australia for Mr Stonehouse's extradiction on 15 charges alleging forgery and fraud.—Reuter.

# Ruler of Sikkim 'under house arrest'

From Our Correspondent
Delhi, April 15

The Chogyal (ruler) of Sikkim, Palden Thandup Namgyal, has been under house arrest since the disarming of his palace guards by Indian troops on Thursday, according to reports reaching Delhi today from Gangtok. Anyone entering the Chogyal's palace, including his relations, is searched at the gate.

Official sources deny that the Chogyal is under house arrest. They say that he has not "so far expressed any desire to go out of the palace". It is learnt that the Chogyal tried to make contact with his friends outside on an amateur transmitter. His explanation was that he had to do so because his telephone was "cut".

Official quarters say that if the telephone was not working, it could only be due to some technical fault. The Indian political officer, however, has confiscated the transmitter.

Earlier, at a press conference in Gangtok, the Chogyal said that he would like to meet Mrs Gandhi, the Indian Prime Minister, immediately so as to resolve the "differences" between him and the elected members

He has described as "illegal and unconstitutional" the special poll held yesterday to seek the people's opinion on the assembly's resolution for the abolition of the monarchy.

Delhi, April 15.—Indian p military police were statio today outside the Sikkim sion in Delhi, where the si of the Chogyal is thought t

A correspondent who sp to Princess Pema Psede Yapshi-Pheunkhang at the sion last Saturday, today refused entry by armed cen reserve police. The office charge said today: "No en . . . I am not giving reasons.

Sikkimese have given an o whelming mandate to th government to abolish monarchy and merge with Ind the Press Trust of India ported. It said 59,637 votes w cast for merger and 1, against.—Reuter.

# "Why would ITT want to invest in Britain at a time like this?"

For many years now, ITT companies have been investing in the British economy in a big way.

Since early 1970, for example, their investment in buildings, equipment and machinery in the UK has totalled £43 million, much of it in Government designated development areas.

Not to mention the £76 million that went into British research, development and engineering during the same period.

All of which is long term investment, with export and employment implications stretching into the 80s and beyond.

But what about 1975 itself?

And what about all those gloomy forecasts about Britain's future?

As far as ITT is concerned, there were good reasons for investing in Britain for the last 50 years. And there are equally good reasons this year.

So ITT companies plan to invest at least another £12 million on buildings, equipment and machinery in Britain during 1975.

Which represents not only a £4 million increase on the ITT average over the last five years, but also a pretty unambiguous vote of confidence in Britain's long term future.

For further information, including a new 20-page publication "Facts about ITT in Europe," please write to 190 Strand, London WC2R 1DU.
ITT companies in Britain include:
Abbey Life Assurance, Ashe Laboratories, Excess Insurance,
ITT Consumer Products, Rimmel, Sheraton,
Standard Telephones and Cables and Standard Telecommunication Laboratories.

ITT

OVERSEAS

# Growing hints that Dr Kissinger's suspended Middle East peace mission will resume soon

By David Spanier
Diplomatic Correspondent

A number of pointers in the behind-the-scenes diplomacy on the Middle East indicate that Dr Henry Kissinger's mission, which was suspended rather than broken off, is likely to be resumed. Some of the "secret annexes" in the first disengagement agreement between Egypt and Israel suggest that there may be more common ground between the two sides than has been admitted in public.

But when the American Secretary of State might start again—the objective being to persuade Egypt and Israel to take another step forward along the road towards a settlement—is not yet clear. It is, perhaps, a matter of mood, seeing that the American Administration is at present so preoccupied with South-east Asia.

What is known is that both Egypt and Israel are prepared to try again. President Sadat's statements on the subject are somewhat guarded, but he has spoken of a fresh start. Mr Yigal Allon, the Israel Foreign Minister, who is seeing Dr Kissinger this week, is ready for new talks.

These hints do not necessarily mean that the Geneva conference will not be reconvened. But it is significant that the Soviet Union for one, while paying lip service to the conference, has not been overtly enthusiastic about it. The reason is probably concern lest talks in Geneva, with all the complications that would ensue, should distract attention from the Soviet leadership's first and overriding priority: a successful conclusion of the European security conference in Helsinki this summer.

Most interesting, however, is the question of the Suez Canal. According to an annexe attached to the disengagement agreement of January, 1974, but not made public, Egypt gave assurances to the effect that on the opening of the Suez Canal, the principle of free passage would be observed.

"As a first step, all cargoes destined for and coming from Israel would be permitted through the canal from the time of its opening," according to assurances given to the Americans. Full implementation of the principle of free passage—ie ships under the Israel flag—would not be accorded to Israel until the state of belligerency was ended.

This agreement shows why the Israelis have been pressing so hard for a declaration of non-belligerency in the previous round of talks with Dr Kissinger.

But the fact that Egypt was willing to give an assurance that Israel cargoes could use the canal as soon as it was reopened, even without the state of belligerency being ended, is of prime significance.

For it seems to suggest that what was thought to be one of the main stumbling blocks in the recent talks was not really an obstacle after all. President Sadat has said that he intends to open the canal in any case in June.

If the secret annexe means what it says, therefore, there would be good reason for Israel to try to keep the momentum of negotiations going. Whether President Sadat feels bound by the first disengagement agreement on this point remains to be seen, for he has stated that the matter will be decided by "Israel's conduct."

This issue, on which each side puts its own gloss, leads back to the fundamental question of why Dr Kissinger's talks broke down. There is something of a mystery about it.

The negotiations had reached their most delicate stage, but Dr Kissinger was not able to pursue the Israel offers. The latter included the novel idea of Israel and Egypt each being allowed to station early warning systems in the demilitarized area of the Sinai passes, from which Israel would withdraw; and access from the west side of the Gulf of Suez for Egypt to the Abu Rudeis oilfields, which would have been likewise evacuated by Israel.

There seemed to be the making of a bargain here, but it was never struck. Again, it may have been that the pressure of events in South-East Asia took precedence, and certainly the breakdown did not displease the Russians, who saw it as a salutary lesson for Dr Kissinger's go-it-alone diplomacy.

Nevertheless, the elements of a second disengagement agreement would seem to be on the table still. Even if the Geneva talks resume, and no one has any confidence in their being very productive, it will be necessary for some further contacts beforehand between Egypt and Israel.

The difficulties are, perhaps, psychological. Egypt may feel, taking its cue from Hanoi, that a policy of negotiation and fighting, while seeking to widen the gap between the United States and Israel, will reap rewards. Israel is mistrustful of President Sadat's motives, particularly after the year-long wrangle over returning the bodies of fallen Israel soldiers, which was originally agreed as part of the disengagement package.

# Israelis expect a new war eventually

From Eric Marsden
Jerusalem, April 15

For Israelis, Remembrance Day and Independence Day, which are being marked today and tomorrow, are uniquely intertwined. They are observed on consecutive days as a reminder that the State's independence is owed to the sacrifices of 10,000 young men who have died in four wars since 1948.

The most recent dead, nearly 3,000 killed in the October 1973 war will be uppermost in the thoughts of most people during the ceremonies. Thirty-nine of these, returned after long and painful negotiations with Egypt, were buried only a few days ago; and the bodies of 18 men killed in Sinai are still being sought.

Bereaved families are still bitter over their losses. Occasionally, they vent their anger against former government leaders who they hold responsible for the 1973 war and its gloomy aftermath. Mr Moshe Dayan has been frequently abused at public meetings; and recently, a group of the bereaved protested at an award made to Mrs Golda Meir.

It would be unwise for anyone to assume from this that Israelis have no stomach for any further fighting. The anger of the bereaved is due chiefly to the feeling that their menfolk died in vain in a war which their country was prevented from winning by big power intervention

The almost unanimous support for the Government's resistance to intense American pressure for further concessions illustrates the nation's readiness to accept new and perhaps far heavier losses should the state be threatened again by war. There is, indeed, a general expectation of war as the various political options—such as further shuttle diplomacy and a resumed Geneva conference—have been shown to lead to deadlock.

There are no illusions that victory would come easily or cheaply; though Israelis remain confident of their ability to defeat all their Arab neighbours, if necessary. But the massive rearming on both sides, and the growing destructive power of constantly modernized weapons make heavy casualties inevitable.

# Beirut strike follows fighting

Beirut, April 15.—Tension ran high in Beirut today as Palestinian guerrillas prepared to bury 27 of their number killed in fierce fighting on Sunday with members of the right-wing Kataeb Christian Party.

Fighting continued during the night and several Kataeb buildings were bombed. The death toll on both sides was unofficially estimated today at more than 75.

The city was paralysed. Shops, schools and markets closed following a call from left-wing political parties for a general strike. Traffic stopped because of the street barricades.

The violence, the worst for more than five years, has already precipitated a government crisis.

Two Ministers last night tendered their resignation, calling for "immediate and severe measures" from Mr Rashid Solh, the Prime Minister. The Cabinet unanimously voted to mandate Mr Solh to "take all necessary steps to safeguard State security". — Agence France Presse.

'No to archaeology; yes to industry' is war cry

# Greek town is tired of antiquities

From Mario Modiano
Athens, April 15

Pylos and the bay of Navarino are threatened by an ambitious plan of industrial development which could scar irreparably one of the most enchanting historical sites of Greece. But the paradox is that the people of Pylos are vigorously in favour of industrialization, rallying behind the war-cry: "No, to archaeology—Yes, to industry."

A quaint nineteenth century port town of 2,250 inhabitants, Pylos is blessed with a large bay which is one of the finest natural anchorages in the world. Beyond its natural beauty, the region has much of historical and archaeological interest to offer. The ruins of the palace of Nestor, Homer's wise king of Pylos, are one of the attractions. Sfaktiria, the oblong island which acts as a natural breakwater for the bay, is best known from the accounts of the Peloponesian War by Thucydides. At the bottom of the bay itself lie the 60 Ottoman ships sunk by the combined fleets of Britain, France, and Russia in the battle of Navarino in 1827, which marked the end of Ottoman rule in Greece.

Yet, the area of Pylos was left to wither because of the lack of natural resources, and an inexplicable neglect in exploiting its full tourist potential of this southwestern province of Greece.

Inadequate hotels, roads, and a lack of amenities along this spectacular coastline, inevitably attracted only the adventurous or impecunious tourist whose camping equipment would cram the sandy beaches between Pylos and medieval Methoni to the south. Quite naturally the local people had a warped view of tourism and an aversion for a trade that was a nuisance rather than a sources of revenue.

"We don't want to be the servants of tourists", said one member of the Pylos, 'citizens committee'. We want heavy industry. We are tired of antiquities and history. The ancients can't starve. We do." From 1951 to 1971, the population of Messinia, the district to which Pylos belongs, declined from 228,000 to 173,000.

When Mr Aristomenis Karageorgis, a wealthy shipowner from Messinia, offered to invest £220m to turn Pylos and its district into a major industrial area and pull the people out of their misery, he was hailed as *deus ex machina*.

Farmers willingly sold him some 400 acres of land right on the bay where he proposes to install a ship building and repair yard at a cost of £56m. Further inland they sold him plots for a cement factory worth £35m.

Mr Karageorgis also promised to build a £140m steel mill, and there are plans for a ships paint factory. Longer-term plans besides expansion, refer to an oil refinery and petro-chemical industries. At least 7,000 people would find work.

But Pylos and the bay had been proclaimed since 1962 a national trust and archaeological area. So Professor Constantine Trypanis, the Minister of Culture, had to approve the projects. He took one look and gave a firm "No". "We shall save Pylos", he stated. "I shall never sign."

The people of Pylos were angry. They staged a hunger strike for 24 hours and when a team of ministers turned up by helicopter, shops and schools closed and a hostile crowd carrying black banners met the officials

Government ministers say the problem has now reached an impasse that only the Prime Minister, with the prestige he commands, can solve. The projects, if carried out, will certainly deform Pylos and Navarino bay completely.

A prominent Greek columnist has suggested this way out: "Invite the people of Pylos to visit the industrial zone near Athens, to breathe its choking air, swim in its polluted waters, and chat with the local inhabitants. Then, they will know."

# Anti-guerrilla alert in Malaysian state

Kuala Lumpur, April 15.—A security alert was in force today in Perak State, Malaysia, near the Thai border to prevent communist guerrilla attacks. Mr Tan Sri Ghazali Jawi, the Chief Minister of the State, said today in Ipoh that some guerrillas had broken away from the group headed by Chin Peng, who led the communist insurgency

Mr Tan Sri Ghazali Shafie, the Malaysian Home Affairs Minister, has announced that the breakaway group, believed to number no more than 300, killed 13 soldiers and seriously wounded 22 in fighting near the Thai border last week.—Reuter.

# Godber trial witness called 'playboy' at appeal hearing

Hongkong, April 15.—A key Crown witness in the trial in February of Peter Godber, former British Chief Superintendent of the Hongkong police, was described before a court today as a "playboy police officer".

The assertion was made by the defence counsel during the appeal against Mr Godber's conviction for corruptly receiving $HK25,000 (£2,300) from a Chinese officer for helping him to get a senior posting, and of related conspiracy.

Mr Godber was jailed for four years on February 25. His London barrister, Mr Anthony Scrivener, told the appeal hearing today that former Superintendent Ernest "Taffy" Hunt, a principal witness in the trial, was himself a "playboy police officer".

Mr Hunt had not told the special commission investigating charges against Mr Godber that he himself had been a corrupt policeman for 18 years in the Colony's force.

Mr Scrivener said that Mr Hunt, whose confessions had appeared in a London newspaper, had never been invited by the commission to make a full confession. The barrister yesterday presented 12 grounds for his appeal. The hearing continues.—Reuter.

# Exploding the myths surrounding today's feminist woman

**Dr Ann Oakley, whose unique research into the housewife's role has won her special recognition as a sociologist, writes this week's guest column in our International Women's Year series.**

Photograph by Warren Harrison

The women's liberation movement has provoked many kinds of reaction in its time, but one that is not often discussed is the feminist stereotype: the idea that feminists are, by definition, certain sorts of people. Since the publication of my books on housework, I've encountered this stereotype in a personal way. A new, unrecognizable Ann Oakley has emerged out of the reviews and the interviews, and perhaps most of all from those readers' letters which always begin with "although I haven't read your book. . . ."

My experience is, I'm sure, typical of that of other feminists who have written on the topic of women's situation. I think it tells us not only what the social stereotype of a feminist is; it also says a great deal both about the problems of social attitude that women in general face, and about the failure of society to understand what it is that the women's movement is saying that is original and important to an understanding of women's lives today.

The feminist stereotype consists of a set of assumptions about the personality and life-style of people who call themselves feminists. A feminist is not married, or if she ever was, the experience must have been an unhappy one. She is anti-children, and usually has none herself; if she has, she has rejected (and hence knows nothing about) their day-to-day care.

This rejection is symptomatic of her general antipathy to the biology of being female. She doesn't wear a bra (having of course burnt it) and she may actually be a lesbian. Personally she is aggressive, self-assertive and independent: "no man is an island"—no, but a feminist is. Her obvious invulnerability is a threat to men who may find her sexually attractive but will also find her sexually threatening ("castrating").

A feminist doesn't do much housework because dirt and untidiness don't upset her the way they do most women. Her main aim as a feminist is to make "ordinary" women unhappy. She wants to stir up trouble in the kitchens of the world, so that her theories about the female condition become self-fulfilling prophecies.

It goes without saying that I don't see myself in this stereotype, but I've discovered that the image in the eye of the beholder has enormous power. People are surprised when they behold me in my (not too slovenly) home with my children in what is clearly, so far as the Registrar-General is concerned, a conventional nuclear family set-up, but I can feel them thinking that they've been treated to a special command performance.

The puzzlement shows through in the words they subsequently choose to describe the encounter: "[Ann Oakley] sits neat and serious in brown in a William Morris covered armchair in her neat villa in Ealing" (*The Times*); "Dr Oakley, a slim, calm and gentle-voiced mother of a boy, eight, and a girl, six, is 31 and lives with her husband" (*Sydney Morning Herald*).

Readers' letters gloss over the possible falsity of the stereotype and reiterate its self-evident truth: "When you advocate the abolition of the nuclear family, I wonder if you yourself have had a good marriage, or if you have been embittered by a poor one. . . . As to penis envy, gracious I have always been glad I didn't have one" ("Housewife", Ann Arbor, USA).

I find that what has happened is that I've acquired a new role to add to the other roles I as a woman am expected to play. But herein lies the key to women's dilemma. Modern woman has many roles, and emancipation has added to, not subtracted from them.

Intrinsic to the oppression (or whatever you choose to call it) of women is their subjection to a rigid system of role stereotypes: they are housewives, wives and mothers, daughters and mistresses, career women and feminists. Each word conjures up specific images. A housewife is married to a house; a wife is the second term in the "partnership" of husband and wife ("I thought I saw two people, but it was only a man and his wife"); a mother is a fulltime mother; and so on.

Of course men also find themselves categorized into roles, but the process is nothing like as extensive or problematic as it is with women. A major difficulty for women is the conflict between the different roles expected of them. Unlike theories about women's situation which chiefly emanate from educated middle-class heads, I have found that the problems of role conflict are experienced by the vast majority of women, including the "ordinary", "contented", working-class housewife.

How do I cope with getting my husband's supper at the time he wants it, as well as bathing the baby and clearing up the children's toys? How can I look after my widowed mother and still do my own housework and shopping and be there when the children come home from school? The conflicts are multiplied where a woman has a job outside the home.

As a friend of mine once remarked, when leaving the house to teach an art class with a mixed bag of teaching materials, matchbox cars and spare nappies: "O God, I've got my roles confused!" The confusion of objects points to the need to organize not only one's day, but also one's very identity into separate parcels of behaviour. This is a very demanding task which leaves no time or place for the question "who am I?" to be answered or even, in many cases, asked.

The feminist stereotype, like all stereotypes, has a few grains of truth in it, but also, like most stereotypes, it has a more subtle function: it serves to keep women in their place. A male-oriented society such as ours has an overriding need to define the nature of women. Men are people and women are women, as somebody once put it. The creation of idealized models—the housewife, the wife, the career-woman—fulfils this purpose by putting firm boundaries around women's social, and economic behaviour. The feminist woman is a clear threat to this framework. Hence the rationale for the feminist stereotype.

Another way to describe a feminist is to call her "a liberated woman". The implication of this is that you can have "a liberated woman" but not "the liberation of women" because the oppression of women doesn't exist. The problems are always personal. The unhappy housewife must have a bad marriage; battered wives enjoy being beaten; the raped woman invites assault; women who can't combine a career with motherhood must lack drive, organization or commitment. Since the problems are personal, so also are the solutions: a bottle of tranquillizers, a new hair-style, a new marriage.

Feminism itself can be cured through a conscientious application of the formula marriage + 2.4 children + a suburban semi-detached. The existence of the feminist stereotype thus confirms the denigration of the political to the personal, whereas the achievement of the women's movement has been the obverse of this: to create a political movement out of the fragmented personal experiences of many women living many different kinds of lives.



Katie Stewart

# Getting ready for a freezing summer

We are frantically using up all the food left in my freezer this month—which is quite sensible when I confess that almost all its contents are fruits and vegetables. Most were put in the freezer last summer and autumn, and I'm clearing out to start again from next month onwards.

This annual freezer spring clean is very important. For one thing a freezer owner must not do is keep frozen foods indefinitely.

It's surprising what you find. Half a dozen home-made bread rolls, a few slices of pâté from a dinner party and right in a corner a lasagne left over from a recipe I tested for *The Times* last November and completely forgotten about.

These unexpected finds are well past their recommended storage date but that doesn't mean to say I throw them out. Recommended storage dates are only a guide to how long food will keep in first-class condition. After the date expires they don't go off overnight, but they will very slowly begin to deteriorate in flavour and appearance. If you keep a packet of prawns for two years it will be perfectly safe to eat, but will probably taste of nothing.

I use my freezer all the time, and my theory about freezing is a very simple one. I like to have a selection of raw ingredients in it which I can use to make recipes of my choice, so that I am completely free to choose what I want to cook and when. The minute you make food up into a recipe it has a limited freezer life. Pre-cooked dishes are usually seasoned and spiced, they may have a delicate flavour and they should be used within a month. It's surprising how quickly a month goes by.

Large-scale cooking for the freezer is not for me. It's too easy to serve the same old recipes over and over again because as far as I am concerned there are only a limited number of recipes that I think come out of the freezer as good as they went in. I'm not talking about the nutritional value because that remains unchanged. I'm concerned with the texture and flavour. It's true to say that you can freeze any food or any recipe. It's how palatable that food or recipe is when thawed and served that you judge it by. Everyone knows that lettuce comes out of the freezer limp. If you like limp lettuce then by your standards lettuce is an ideal item for the freezer. It's as simple as that, all the way up the scale. Books vary on the recipes they recommend for freezing, but it's up to you as the cook to decide which ones come up to your standards on thawing. Until you have made that decision, anything goes

But whether you cook for the freezer or just freeze fresh foods, new freezer owners beware—a freezer will not save you time or money unless you are prepared to work for it. If you fill a freezer with commercially frozen foods it will cost you money. If you do the job yourself it will cost you time. A freezer saves time—well what it actually does is transfers the time required for preparation to a time that is more convenient to you.

An expensively stocked freezer is a temptation. You imagine you have all that food there free and it's not until you restock it that you realize how much you have spent. A friend of mine pays into a piggy bank for everything she takes out of the freezer which is a system worth considering.

If you are going to concentrate on fresh fruits and vegetables as I do, you can only do it on a seasonal basis. New vegetables and soft fruits that come into season in summer months are the best for freezing. So summer is my busy time.

But I have already started my 1975-76 freezer stock with packs of outdoor rhubarb just washed and cut into pieces and packed without sugar in freezer bags. I will follow this up with broad beans, french beans and calabrese. Courgettes I find freeze best made into soup. The same goes for our garden spinach and lettuce. Home made soups freeze very well and every time I have stock from a chicken carcass I make it into soup with whatever vegetable is in season. I can't remember when we last opened a tin of soup.

By mid-summer there will be a frenzy of activity in our kitchen because that is when all the soft fruits are available. Green gooseberries, cherries, raspberries, strawberries, black and red currants are the ones I concentrate on and all of which I am quite prepared to buy. Shop prices are not always economical. It is better if you can pick your own at a fruit farm. It depends on the fruit; I don't like picking gooseberries but I enjoy picking strawberries. I prepare and freeze the fruits without sugar, because then I can use them later in recipes of my choice. The exceptions are strawberries which I freeze with sugar because I often serve them separately, or as a strawberry sauce and cherries which have to be frozen in a syrup otherwise they discolour.

By August it's time for the runner beans and sweetcorn and finally we breathe a sigh of relief when we have sliced and packed the last apple and picked every blackberry we can find on the hedgerows. Again they go straight into packs with no sugar because I use them cooked in recipes. By October my freezer will be bulging and the contents sufficient to keep menus interesting through until the next April.

From time to time I supplement these foods with items like pancakes made using an enriched batter and frozen in numbers convenient to serve. I regularly go to the trouble of making my own puff pastry and I freeze *vol au vent* cases cut out ready for baking. I bake sponge flans and sponge layers which freeze unfilled and pastry cases for sweet or savoury fillings.

None of these things dictate to me when or how they are to be used; they are there to be cooked and served as I wish. Vegetables are obviously served as vegetables but fruit is a different matter. We have fruit desserts all through winter. Rhubarb I poach in a sugar syrup with orange added and serve chilled. The sweetened strawberries thawed are lovely with home-made yoghurt. The strawberry sauce children love over ice cream but I try to save some for dinner parties when I serve it over chilled lemon cheesecake or with gooseberry mousse or snow made using my frozen gooseberries.

Any of the fruit I can use in my favourite recipes for hot crumble, or cobbler or cold in a mousse. I can use them in pies too if I allow the fruit to thaw just so I can separate the pieces, then I follow my usual recipe.

I cook some of my apples with red cabbage and make others into Eve's pudding. My pancakes are good with a filling of spinach and a cheese sauce one day and with creamed chicken on another occasion. The *vol au vent* cases when baked and crisp extend the scraps of a roast chicken into yet another lovely meal. I fill the sponge flans with frozen raspberries or the cake layers with cream and raspberries and use the pastry cases for apple amber or lemon pie.

*The picture on this page yesterday showed the Duchess of Windsor leaving Dior in Paris with a member of the couturier's staff.*

# THE ARTS

## Discovering his audience

### Lenny

### Criterion

### Irving Wardle

The only time I saw Lenny Bruce's act, on one of his bad days at the Establishment Club, it did nothing to confirm the legend. But from Julian Barry's play there seems no doubt that he was one of the century's great comic liberators. He brought together two forms of expression that seldom combine: an urgent personal message, and a vaudeville background. It is one thing to read that on paper, and another to see how he went about breaking an all-American audience into its ethnic components, or conjugating the verb "to come" to a drum accompaniment.

The performance material which forms the bulk of this play suggests that Bruce went before his public like a naked warrior: disdaining the safety of fixed routines, and daring to free-associate on stage with nothing beyond his powers of invention and his sensitivity to the house to protect him from disaster. What emerges from Marty Brill's gladiatorial performance is that Bruce's development was as much a matter of discovering his audience as discovering himself.

At first the acts are coloured by defiant aggression and the *impulse to outrage*. If the police had wanted to arrest him then, they would have found it easier to pin him on obscenity charges than later on when "talking dirty" was no more than a by-product of speaking the truth. The sound that grows increasingly insistent in Mr Brill's performance is a triumphant "Ha!" accompanied by a *stabbing forefinger*, and he nails another little shameful secret which he knows all his hearers will privately acknowledge. As for the vaudeville side, only a virtuoso pro could gauge so exactly how much straight talking an audience could take before spiralling back into comic fantasy.

The play takes him in leapfrogging stages from his marriage to a Baltimore stripper, through his privations and successes on the West Coast, and finally through the implacable sequence of arrests and court cases up to his death from narcotics. Nobody, I think, will deny that the rednecks were out for his blood. But Mr Barry *weakens this side of the story* by overplaying the martyrdom.

If he gets a court acquittal, it is presented as an act of long-term cruelty. If he goes down with pleurisy, somehow the authorities are responsible for that too. The exigencies of *commercial casting* have *also* melodramatized a fable that speaks for itself. Throughout the second half of the show, Bruce is hounded by the same two plainclothes policemen, forever hovering in the wings as he coughs gallantly through the act, *to double him up with* a kidney punch as soon as he infringes a Middle-American taboo.

Although the biographical *thread is there mainly to support* the routines, Mr Barry has got it in a fine old tangle; on one occasion *bringing Lenny on* to recount his trial with the aid of a flashback first to the court room, and then back to the act that stirred up the trouble. Add to that extensive doubling throughout the company, and an unlocalized set by Hayden Griffin with abominable sight-lines from row A, and you will gather that, save for its brilliant and impassioned central performance, Jonathan Yates's production is an event in which it is easy to get lost.

## B minor Mass

### Festival Hall

### William Mann

The English Bach Festival is among us again, at present in London, later in Oxford. This year's festivities began on Monday night with J. S. Bach's Mass in B minor performed by visitors from Berlin, the RIAS Chamber Choir, the Deutsche Streichersolisten (each of these has its own concert later in the week), excellent wind soloists, a vocal quartet, all conducted by Uwe Gronostay who is the choir's director.

It was a small-scale performance, the choir just large enough to cope with the double *chorus Osanna, the string force* founded on one bassoon, one cello and one doublebass who, with chamber organ (often too discreet), formed the continuo department. Scholars agree that J. S. Bach reckoned in terms of something like this number of performers even if he never performed the whole Mass as an integer.

*Whether* the sound of this performance resembled what Bach imagined is more dubious, though it provided a useful corrective for those who have only ever heard the B minor Mass given by a large choir and string force (does anybody still perform *Domine Deus* with six flutes instead of Bach's one?). Mr Gronostay was able, with these numbers, to set fast tempi and hope that rapid runs would emerge in good order. But the Festival Hall's acoustics are, I believe, drier than those of the Thomaskirche in Leipzig, and our concert hall seemed less suited to the purpose of the exercise than, say, St John's in Smith Square.

Mr Gronostay makes some historical compromises, using compact, coiled Bach trumpets (the splendid Rotzoll trio) but modernized other instruments; his sopranos and altos were ladies—the altos, solo and *choral, the more enjoyable.* The choral style is lightweight and restrained, no doubt for *euphony and clarity. It gave a* half-hearted, mousey effect to vocal lines, the *Et expecto chorus*, the *Osanna*, the *Credo*, which must blaze forth. The *Crucifixus* was boldly done, though the flutes disappeared from earshot. Not all cadential trills were audible as such.

Of the instrumental soloists the first flute, Martin-Ulrich Senn, especially in *Benedictus* with a promising substitute tenor, Peter Maus, the oboi d'amore, and the continuo bass players, stood out as did the solo alto, Ortrun Wenkel, a rich *and musicianly voice.* It was interesting to hear Berlin's Bach style which, in another auditorium, might have emerged as invigorating rather than faintly disappointing.

Malcolm McDowell

## Malcolm McDowell comes back

Seven years ago there was a production of *Twelfth Night* at the Royal Court. *It was bright*, even garish; it was full of ideas, half good and half bad; and it gathered together under Jane Howell's direction a rising group of young actors including Denis Waterman, Malcolm Tierney, Kika Markham and Malcolm McDowell. Sebastian in that *Twelfth Night* was to be McDowell's last appearance on stage until the opening tomorrow week, also at the Royal Court, of the first play in the Joe Orton season, *Entertaining Mr Sloane*.

"We were all friends and rivals in that *performance*. Just before it opened there had been screen tests for the leading part *in Lindsay Anderson's If ...*, which was certainly the most coveted role around at the time *for someone of my age.* Everyone knew that I had auditioned for it, but the weeks went by and I didn't hear a word, so I started to tell everyone that I failed. Then one evening when the curtain came down I was called to the telephone. It was the casting director, Miriam Brickman, telling me that the lead was mine. We talked for some time, so long in fact that when I got off the phone the theatre was empty. *I went across to the bar of the* Royal Court Hotel, the cast's unofficial meeting place, and *ordered a bottle of champagne* which took up most of a week's wages. But no one arrived. I shared it with an *elderly* musician and I've still no idea what his name is."

Malcolm McDowell's success in *If ...* led to approximately *a film a year, practically all* with leading directors: Losey (*Figures in a Landscape*), Kubrick (*A Clockwork Orange*), back to Anderson (*O Lucky Man!*), and still, to be released, *Royal Flash* for Dick Lester. Luck or selection?

"It's not so much a matter of luck as of sheer economics. Over the past few years only the top directors have been able to get the financial backing. You learn early on that nothing can waste more of an actor's time than endless discussions about films which end up by not be*ing made.*

"I owe everything so far to the cinema. Some of the work *I love and some I hate*. Perhaps the worst part is the impossibility of building up a performance. There's no warm up. You're working with technicians and they expect *you* to be a perfect technician. You arrive early in the morning and somebody cries, 'Jesus, let's go! We'll miss the sun! We've only got one shot ... go ... go!'

"*The pleasure of returning* to the theatre is one of pace. You can shape a performance, you can throw ideas around, accept them, reject them. I'm trying hard not to arrive at Mr Sloane too early and perhaps he won't be as I want him until the middle of the run."

Ironically, Lindsay Anderson, the man who more than anyone *else shaped McDowell's career*, is directing in the Joe Orton season but not *Entertaining Mr Sloane*. "It's nice to be in friendly competition with Lind*say and he'll be there watching.* But he's an impossible man to come after. Look at the way he *directed Ralph Richardson and* John Gielgud in *Home*, probably the finest acting I've ever seen. How can you *follow* something like that? I'm afraid we stipulated that *Sloane* should be the first of the trio of Orton plays."

Was the return to the Court coincidence? "Not entirely. Once you've acted there, and Sebastian was the only time, you have *become* part of a club and I feel more warmly towards the Court than to any other theatre in *London. It looks after its* authors. Where would Bond and Wesker, Hampton and Storey be without it? But it doesn't shout enough about is achievements."

Mr Sloane, who excites the lust of both Kath and Ed and disposes of Dadda, who too *quickly gets Sloane's* number, completes a trio of arrogant roles after Alex the Droog in *Clockwork Orange* and Flashman in *Royal Flash*. "Yes, I suppose he does in a way, although I don't want him too hard. Ed and Kath are both besotted with him, so he must give something back. Perhaps confident would be a better word to describe *those three parts. Maybe it is* difficult to cast confident roles. Or again perhaps you just have *to be confident* to get work, although I was very far from confident as Sebastian eight years ago."

**John Higgins**

Barbara Nay and Tino Buazzeli.

## Regeneration

### Aldwych

### Charles Lewsen

To the halfway mark, this last work of Italo Svevo struck me as the most stimulating play I had seen in a long time.

It concerns Giovanni Chierici, whose son-in-law has recently died of premature senility, and who is himself offered the chance of an operation which will rejuvenate him for 10 years. With splendid cynicism, Svevo builds a character who, intrigued with the prospect of *renewed youth, obsessively* calculates the cost of each regained day ("82.7 cents per hour"), and surrounds him with characters who likewise measure life as a commodity—one of the more extreme formulations being that only in cannibalism does friendship genuinely survive death.

With cheerful elan, Svevo presents, in descriptions by the daughter, Emma, and her would-be new husband, the ugliness of that senility from which the operation can save Giovanni. The elan is sustained by, among other things, a taste for parody: Emma and her suitor are a gloss *on Gertrude and Claudius*—"No proposal until after the funeral". And the parody is no mere *undergraduate* irrelevance; it is a direct expression of an absurdist vision.

However, it seems that inside every cynic there is a sentimentalist waiting to ooze out; in the second half, Svevo returns to the tone of the opening five minutes, with their gooey symbolic talk of sparrows being destroyed by cats; and Gio*vanni's dream encounters* with the girls he knew before his marriage become the excuse for portentousness. *In place of* nicely controlled chop logic—"I'll have this rejuvenation operation if it kills me"—we get winsome *faux naïveté* like "I think I know what's in your mind; I don't know what's in mine."

The production of Edmo Fenoglio nicely parodies the *symbolist opening*, then proceeds via naturalism to a fine expressionist handling of the *first dream sequence:* four white-coated doctors breaking through the string walls of Sergio D'Osmo's set. *In the second* half, invention deserts Signor Fenoglio, and he permits the *Giovanni of Tino Buazzelli* knowingly to inform us, rather than the other characters, that we too will *grow old*, and to question our reality at a point when his own has slipped from him.

Though given to upstaging his colleagues with over-active lips and jowls, the bass-voiced Signor Buazzelli is a powerful *presence*, and Laura Carli, as Giovanni's rather shadowy wife, is an actress of temperament *and subtlety*.

## Genesis

### Wembley

### Michael Wale

With an *almost* two-hour unbroken performance of their latest work *Lamb Lies Down on Broadway*, Genesis publicly attempt their most ambitious concert appearance to date, daring musical comparison with such rock giants as Pink Floyd and Yes. *Lamb* is the archetypal Genesis piece dominated by the abstruse lyrics of the lead *singer, Peter Gabriel.*

This lengthy work is told through the person of Raul (Peter Gabriel), an impoverished Puerto Rican who escapes his downtrodden life in New York City through a flight of fantasy that at times plunges him into the abyss as well as takes him up to the heights. It is a timely paean of the modern *city dweller* under attack from every side with at times a touching naivety as he grasps for hope with the lines: "I'd rather trust a countryman rather than a city man. I'd rather trust a man who works with his hands."

Genesis have always dealt in theatrical rock, usually depending on Gabriel to *change into* ever more dramatic costumes. But now his role is simplified as back-projection reflects every mood of the story.

*Technically, the screen could* have been tauter as at times on Monday it gave the images a scratched effect. Often, I found Gabriel's words indistinct because I was too near to the amplifiers, and yet not for the first time with Genesis I enjoyed *their programme almost more* when the group dominated the action rather than Gabriel. In Phil Collins, they have one of the best emergent rock drummers in Britain and with this particular work their keyboard man, Tony Banks, is permitted to take an even greater part than before.

*It is good that they should* attempt something so ambitious after their previous fragmentary works such as *Selling England by the Pound*, yet they still lack the polish of the Floyd who were the last group I saw in this 9,000 seat auditorium. Then *the Floyd used a huge screen* behind them compared with the modest affair backing Genesis. They are undoubtedly an important group, but at times I would wish for a little less lyrical Pinteresqueness. Sometimes I feel Gabriel baffles *merely* to baffle, as *in his programme notes.*

However, after the programme, which they repeated before a sell-out audience last night, they must rank as one of Britain's leading groups. It was good to note that in com*parison with the Floyd and Yes* their audience was much younger, which proves that British youth is ready to grapple with music much more complicated than that provided by the Bay City Rollers.

## Getting on

### BBC 1

### Derek Parker

In 1967, a television programme was devoted to five people just retiring from work. Last night's Tuesday documentary caught them up again, in order to find out how they were "getting on".

One wasn't; he had died of a *heart attack in 1970.* Another, widowed not long after stopping work, had had two years of abject loneliness on a new estate (his old home pulled down as part of a slum clearance scheme), but is now doing his own shopping, cooking for himself, exchanging a few words with neighbours. But "the waste remains, the waste *remains and kills*".

The other three were as happy as, one supposes, they *had hoped to be: Phyllis in her* garden surrounded by her grandchildren; William in a bigger garden, though not without a feeling that he is wasting his time; George—perhaps the only completely happy one of the five—an ex-engine driver who travels, still, on the railway, sits idyllically under an oak watching the trains go by, takes photographs, toddles down to the crossing to see the children over.

*The trouble was that the pro*gramme revealed nothing unexpected: occupation, income, *loneliness—these are the fac*tors one thinks of *first* in relation to retirement. The people with whom the producer, Stephen Peet, had to deal, had too small a range of difficulties to provide really interesting material. Gardens comforted William and Phyllis; would they have comforted a man retired after a lifetime's mental work? *Jim is forced to* take a pound or two out of the bank to supplement his pension, and the state seizes back one third of George's little wage packet as a lollypop man. They don't grumble. But what of the man or woman who has not "been able to save a bit"?

Retirement can be a trauma*tic experience only compar*able to birth, marriage or death: the trauma remembered in tranquillity is *softened*—though one could discern hints of it in William's wife's stories of the first couple of months. As it was, even the bereavements were distanced, and the elegaic brass band music which Mr Peet chose for the background only helped to sentimentalize the situation. A follow-up is only justifiable if *something of real interest* has actually followed.

## Tributes to Josef Krips

The late Frank Martin's Second Piano Concerto will receive its British premiere in a London Philharmonic Orchestra concert at the Royal Festival Hall next Tuesday. Paul Badura-Skoda, for whom it was composed, will be *the soloist under* John Pritchard.

This concert and another at the *same hall on April 27*, were to have been conducted by Josef Krips, who died in October. The orchestra is now presenting them as tributes to the conductor, with whom it was closely associated in recent years. The second concert, devoted to Beethoven, will be conducted by Daniel Barenboim, who made his Festival Hall debut in 1956 at the age of 13 in a concert conducted by Josef Krips.

## London debuts

Phillip Langshaw, a young Australian baritone, *announced* his serious intentions even before he opened his mouth by his ambitious and resourceful choice of programme. He *proved* himself worthy of his songs by his confident, well-briefed delivery.

His voice is mellow, tawny and with a not unattractive quick vibrato in the tone, which he controls successfully through a considerable range. Five of *Brahms's Magelonelieder* at once showed his command of an appealing legato and excellent German. It also revealed some lack of support at the top and an occasional failure to round off phrases. Those pros and cons to his always pains*taking and intelligent interpre*tations did not change much through the course of an exacting evening.

He commendably revived Cornelius's concise, apt and eloquent settings of his own poems in the cycle *Trauer und Trost*, *displayed dramatic gifts* and intensity of expression that might be useful in opera for Britten's Songs and Proverbs of William Blake, and had the lighter touch needed for Schoenberg's rarely encountered folk-song arrangements. Only *Wolf's Harfenspielerlieder* were still a bit beyond him vocally and interpretatively. Johanna Hefring accompanied idiomatically throughout.

Editha Gruberova, reigning Queen of Night at the Vienna State Opera (she also sang the role at Glyndebourne a couple of years ago), also chose wisely for her short recital at the *Austrian Institute. Her range* and flexibility were precisely suited to Webern's quizzical Op 25 songs and to Four Songs after Chinese Poets by Thomas Christian David, in the last of which she perfectly controlled line and *mezza-voce*.

*Dvorak's Gipsy Songs, sung in* Miss Gruberova's native Czech, not unexpectedly showed a new freedom and fullness in her singing, which was spirited or soulful as each required. Verdi's fizzing 1845 song about a chimney-sweep and a Strauss *encore confirmed this* new-found interpretative warmth, making us forget some harshness in her opening Mozart, K 368, a tricky *scena*, written for the original Electra in *Idomeneo*. Harold Goertz was her sound accompanist.

**Alan Blyth**

SPORT

Racing

# Amerrico working well in spite of some coughing in the stalls

By Michael Phillips
Racing Correspondent

The Totalisator Free Handicap, run over the last seven furlongs of the Rowley mile is the centrepiece of this the second day of the Craven meeting at Newmarket. There are 15 runners and they include the long time ante-post favourite, Amerrico, who rumour had it on Monday might not run.

His trainer, Neville Callaghan, told me yesterday that although some of his horses are coughing, Amerrico appears to be perfectly all right. Lester Piggott rode him at exercise yesterday morning when he worked every bit as well as he has been working during the past month, and he is my selection. But Calaghan warned me that he will obviously have to play things by ear. Obviously he will not risk Amerrico unless he is perfectly happy with him this morning.

If the colt does take his chance he will speak for his trainer's confidence in him. Only in his absence would I switch my allegiance to Green Belt. Bygone, Escapologist, Cresset and Walk By are the others whose chances I respect in what is an open race.

Amerrico's form last season was tied up with the best, yet his astute trainer has always said that he is sure that he will be an even better colt this year, and Amerrico's home work this spring has endorsed that view. Amerrico started favourite for the Granville Stakes at Ascot in July and finished third. He was beaten three and a half lengths by Grundy and just over a length by No Alimony. Later in the season Amerrico returned to Ascot and won the Clarence House Stakes. His chance today is best judged on his initial effort backed by the knowledge that he has been working really well this spring.

Green Belt, beaten three-quarters of a length by the smart Red Cross in the Mill Reef Stakes at Newbury last September enters the fray with a race already under his belt this season. That will, I believe, stand him in good stead this afternoon. It was no disgrace on his part to be beaten a short head by Janes Joker at Redcar on the Saturday before Easter. Green Belt was trying to give Janes Joker a stone. Bygone, from Peter Walwyn's stable, the stable that won this race 12 months ago won the Houghton Stakes run over this course and distance last October.

Bygone has certainly thrived during the winter and there is absolutely no question that she will see out today's distance. On the contrary there are grounds for thinking that she would be even better suited by a longer distance. Her older sister, Great Guns, stayed so well last year that she was able to win six races over distances that varied between 10 furlongs and two miles. If Bygone does run really well today, and I am led to believe that she will, then her name is one to remember later on.

Escapologist ended his successful two-year-old season by winning the Somerville Tattersall Stakes, another race run over today's course and distance, in the autumn. His weight will be reduced to 8 st 9 lb by the allowance that his rider, the apprentice Ian Johnson, will claim. Johnson is an able boy, coming from the Frenchie Nicholson academy and Escapologist should give him a good ride.

Tranos, with Geoffrey Lewis riding, is presumably Bruce Hobbs's first string, but our Newmarket correspondent has a hankering for Cresset, who beat Rose Bowl at York in the autumn when the ground was soft. Cresset he says is as fully fit. Tranos finished second in the Horris Hill Stakes at Newbury. Walk By, who finished just behind Cresset in the Cheveley Park Stakes has been well backed ante-post. Being by Tower Walk, a son of High Treason, she will relish the soft ground, but I wonder whether she will quite last the distance. On the other hand I am inclined to think that seven furlongs even in this ground could well be too short for the Reliance filly Harmonise, whose best performance last year was at Longchamp on Arc day when she finished third in the Critérium des Pouliches run over a mile.

Rozel Buoy, a tough and consistent two-year-old, was a colt who improved steadily throughout the season. Although he won and was placed second, his best performance was probably his last when he finished fourth behind talented older sprinters at Haydock Park. Our Newmarket correspondent says that Prospect Rainbow will run better than he did in his first race this season, and I was told yesterday that anyone who disregarded Divine King would be foolish.

Mastered Petard, a brother of that talented filly, Miss Petard, may be capable of winning the Wood Ditton Stakes, for which Noel Murless decided not to saddle Bally Honey. But, he will be running the good four-year-old filly, Mil's Bomb, in the Earl of Sefton Stakes, a prize that he won for Mil's Bomb's owner and breeder, Louis Freedman, last year with Owen Dudley. This has been a wretched spring in which to train fillies and no one ought to be surprised if Mil's Bomb turns in a performance that is below par.

On the other hand one only has to recall her best performances last year to realize that she has a clear cut chance. Taros, a smart colt in France last year, when he was trained by François Mathet could be the one to take advantage if Mil's Bomb is not in form. Knight Templar, a good winner at Kempton Park on Easter Monday is my choice for the Babraham Handicap, even though his weight has been increased to 9 st 7 lb by the penalty that stylish victory entailed.

After more rain the going at Newbury where racing is due to begin on Friday, was said to be heavy yesterday morning. As a result of this, Bruce Hobbs has decided not to run Cry of Truth, the winter favourite for the 1,000 Guineas, in the Fred Darling Stakes after all. Instead Cry of Truth will reappear at Newmarket tomorrow in the Nell Gwyn Stakes.

Hobbs had originally preferred the Newbury race because the conditions favoured her there. Now he is faced with the task of giving 10 lb to One Over Parr, a daunting prospect I am inclined to think. It was because the ground at Newbury had deteriorated that Peter Walwyn decide to leave Grundy, the 2,000 Guineas favourite, in both the Greenham Stakes at Newbury and the Thirsk Classic Trial at yesterday's four-day forfeit stage.

Walwyn now is in the best position of having all his options open. If the weather permits, Grundy, who worked well again yesterday, will run at Newbury, leaving Corby to tackle the other race. But if things look ominous then Gundy will be rerouted to Thirsk.

There were plenty of acceptors for both these classic trials after yesterday's acceptance stage. Together with Grundy, Mark Anthony, All Friends, Creetown, Dial-a-Lad, High Season, Hillandale and Jumping Hill, have stood their ground at Newbury. Admetus and Ashmore, both of whom are trained in France, and Beauvallon, are the pick of 15 acceptors for the John Porter Stakes there.

Grundy and Corby are, as I mentioned earlier, among those who have been declared for the race at Thirsk. All Friends, Dial-a-Lad, High Season, Jumping Hill and Royal Manacle, are engaged at Thirsk as well.

STATE OF GOING (official): Newmarket: Soft. Ripon: Heavy. Cheltenham: Soft. Lanark (tomorrow): Good.

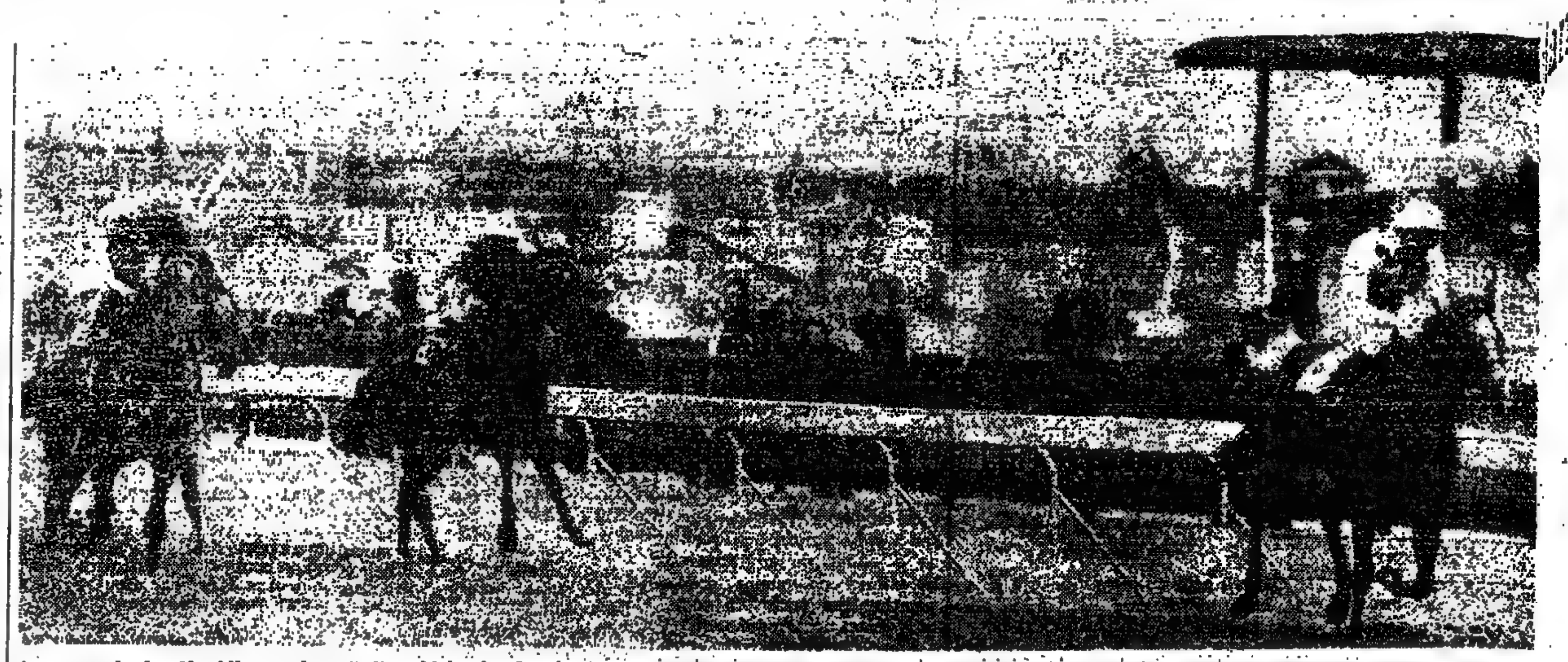
# Relief over unchanged betting duty

The decision in the Budget to make no change in the general betting duty of 7½ per cent off-course and 4 per cent on-course brought only relief to racing yesterday. But there was keen disappointment that the Chancellor of the Exchequer did nothing to free the bloodstock industry of value-added tax. A zero rating had been repeatedly claimed on the ground that the tax on the sale and import of thoroughbred horses was undermining the industry.

The Levy Board chairman, Sir Desmond Plummer, said: "I am very glad that the Chancellor has taken note of our view that there should be no further increase in the betting duty.

"The way is now open for the bookmakers' committee to come forward with a positive proposal for an increased fifteenth levy, which will assist the racing industry to surmount some of the critical financial problems currently facing it. It is, after all, in the bookmakers' own interests to maintain a healthy racing industry."

Mr Charles Layfield, president of the National Sporting League, said: "Since the killing increase of 25 per cent on the general betting duty of last year, several representations on behalf of the betting and racing industries have been made to the Chancellor. We did not, therefore, expect any increase this time. In view of the general tone of the Budget, we must thank goodness for small mercies."



An easy win for No Alimony from Bolkonski in the Craven Stakes at Newmarket yesterday.

# No Alimony should find Derby trip well within his compass

By Michael Seely

Peter Walwyn drew a bold line across the bare canvas of the 1975 classics picture at Newmarket yesterday afternoon. Following a more than satisfactory performance by Sea Break in Ireland on Saturday, No Alimony gave a further boost to the Observer Gold Cup form when streaking away from his rivals in the closing stages of the Craven Stakes.

As the field reached the bushes the winner had taken up the running closely pressed by his stable companion, Patch, and the formerly Italian-trained colt, Bolkonski. Racing into the dip No Alimony lengthened his stride impressively and pushed along with hands and heels to beat Bolkonski by four lengths, with Sefton Court three lengths away third just in front of Libra's Rib. Bold Aussie faded out quickly after disputing the lead for five furlongs to finish last but one.

Patrick Eddery was delighted with the response that the winner had given him. "When I picked him up and asked him to go No Alimony quickened like a really good horse," he said after the race. Walwyn, though equally pleased, was understandably reluctant to commit himself as to whether No Alimony will be allowed to take his chance in the 2,000 Guineas. Naturally a great deal depends on how Grundy acquits himself in the Clerical Medical Greenham Stakes at Newbury on Saturday. For the time being the Lambourn trainer is wisely keeping all his options open. Reading between the lines it would seem that Walwyn is still thinking of the Derby as the main objective for yesterday's winner.

If it is decided to forego the Guineas the Chester Vase is a possible target for No Alimony as the trainer considers that the tight circuit of the Roodeye is tailor-made for the colt's requirements. Although No Alimony has not grown a deal since last year he has certainly thickened out and strengthened. He is a compact, beautifully made little colt who, both on conformation and breeding, should find the Derby trip well within his compass. After the race most leading layers offered 10-1 against No Alimony for both the 2,000 Guineas and the Derby.

Of his opponents, Bolkonski showed plenty of speed throughout. He is clearly a useful horse and Henry Cecil's decision to aim him at the 2,000 Guineas is certainly justified. I liked the look of the third horse, Sefton Court, who has wintered well. Jeremy Hindley should have no difficulty in placing the three-year-old to win some nice prizes.

Libra's Rib is a charming colt though on the small side. He was going particularly well three furlongs out but failed to quicken when the leaders went for home. The full brother to Ribocco and Ribero will almost certainly need further than the distance of yesterday's race and, like most of the stock of Ribot, will be all the better for some sun on his back. Johnson-Houghton is still convinced that Libra's Rib is a top-class colt in the making but has not yet reached a firm decision as to future running plans.

Bold Aussie, although the pick of the paddock on looks, was a disappointment in the race and although doubtless on the backward side his chance in the Guineas must be considered remote.

One of the chief features of the waterlogged start to the present campaign has been the predominance of horses that are fit from hurdling. The pattern continued in the chief supporting race on yesterday's card, the Ladbroke Holiday Handicap, in which Nopac showed too good a turn of foot for Flash Imp and Legal Tender. The first three have all been running under winter rules and Nopac became the fourth horse to win three races off the reel this spring, the other three being Wheatclose, Horseguards and the Northern two-year-old, Delayed Action. Ryan Price trained Nopac for Neil Capon, a farmer from Bedfordshire, and the four-year-old has now been sold to go abroad.

Lester Piggott rode his first winner of the meeting on Genesis in the Elveden Maiden Plate. Going into the dip Dazzling Light was clear of her rivals on the far side but on the hill Genesis ran on strongly to lead close home. This was a family triumph for the Johnston-Houghtons as Helen Houghton bred the filly from her own mare, Star Story, who was an exceptionally fast two-year-old in her day when she won five of her six starts. This was the second year running Johnson-Houghton has saddled the winner of this race having taken it last year with Tachibana.

Walwyn and Eddery continued their sparkling start to the Craven meeting when Giselle ran out a comfortable winner of the Crawfurd Handicap.

# Magic Mountain may be one to beat

By John Karter

It would easy to pick a dozen horses from a field of 27 for today's George Duller Handicap Hurdle at Cheltenham and not name one of the first three home. This three mile event, which is by far the most valuable on the programme and which was formerly run at the Cheltenham Festival meeting, has just that sort of dauntingly open look. It is the sort of race that might be dangled incessantly in front of ravenous punters if a society for the prevention of cruelty to bookmakers was ever set up to control racing.

But, faint heart never won fair booty, and, adopting a more positive attitude, I hope to see the winner come from a group comprising Go Bingo, Saffron Cake, Ribanco, Magic Mountain, Tabasco Time, Forest King and Blakedown.

Fred Winter's Irish importation, Tabasco Time is the likely favourite, after his impressive win from Orosio at Chepstow recently.

He should confirm the form with Peter Cundell's eight-year-old on only 6 lb worse terms, but another of his victims there, Saffron Cake, could be a real threat. Saffron Cake clearly did not show anything like his best form in finishing a distant fourth then. He is better judged on his courageous win from Top Priority in the Joe Coral Golden Hurdle final over this course at the big meeting last month.

The consistent Go Bingo ran well to take fourth place behind Brown Lad in the Lloyds Bank Hurdle at the same meeting, form that gives him an obvious chance here. The northern challenger, Ribanco, who gained his fourth win of the season when beating Tremendous by six lengths at Wetherby, and the much-improved Blakedown, who was one of the easiest winners of the season when he lolloped home from Magic Mountain at Wolverhampton in February, also have sound claims.

The one they may all have to beat, though, may be Magic Mountain, who although easily beaten by Blakedown in the race mentioned above, has since come back to her best form with a 15-length victory from Hazelestyn at Worcester. She is 10 lb better in with Blakedown and I take her to win from Stan Wright's gelding and Saffron Cake.

The Golden Miller Handicap Steeplechase may go to Merry Maker, who stayed on strongly to beat Vulkie over this distance at Devon. Dead Reckoning and Star Pearl look the dangers.

# Carson to ride Hobnob in Italy on Sunday

By Pierre Guillor

William Carson rides Hobnob for Harry Wragg in the £9,000 Premio Emanuele Filiberto at San Siro, Milan, on Sunday.

The winner of two of his six races as a two-year-old, including the £3,186 Child Stakes at Newmarket, the son of Gyr will be running for the first time since finishing unplaced in the Horris Hill Stakes in October.

Another English runner on the Continent this Sunday is Funny Man, who challenges for the £5,390 Grosser Preis Der Stadt-Gelsenkirchen.

John Dunlop's five-year-old, who will be ridden by Ron Hutchinson, is fit from racing at Cagnes-sur-Mer, where he won on the last of his three appearances.

Twenty-two-year-old Sarah Hollinshead rode her first winner when Startown just held off the favourite Apprehend in the first division of the Adam and Eve Plate at Chepstow yesterday.

Girls dominated the race, filling the first four places, while last season's top male amateur, Colin Platts, could finish only fifth on Goldspur, beaten over 18 lengths.

It was not a good race for the men.

## Newmarket programme

*[Television (IBA): 3.0, 3.35 and 4.10 races]*

**2.0 BARTLOW STAKES** (2-y-o maiden fillies: £556: 5f)

101 Alice Faye (J. Astor), Astor, 8-11 ... J. Mercer 5
102 Ebonite (I. Cabrera), R. Smyth, 8-11 ... L. Jenkinson 11
103 Kitty Fisher (Mrs Hills), B. Hills, 8-11 ... R. Street 10
105 7 Lucy Sheney (L. Lester), P. Ashworth, 8-11 ... L. Piggott 13
106 Lammergeier (D. Blackburn), T. Corbett, 8-11 ... P. Eddery 8
107 Mimika (Mrs Lemus), C. Brittain, 8-11 ... C. Hide 5

[illegible]

**2.30 BABRAHAM HANDICAP** (£996: 1m 4f)

[illegible]

**3.0 TOTE FREE HANDICAP** (3-y-o: £4,174: 7f)

[illegible]

**3.35 WOOD DITTON STAKES** (3-y-o: £1,783: 1m)

[illegible]

**4.10 EARL OF SEFTON STAKES** (£4,013: 1m 1f)

[illegible]

**4.40 ROWLEY PLATE** (3-y-o maidens: £690: 7f)

[illegible]

## Ripon programme

**2.45 HACKFALL APPRENTICE HANDICAP** (£489: 6f)

1 0034-01 Day Two (CD) (R. Payne), V. Mitchell, 6-9-10 ... J. Blanks 4
2 23230-3 Super Saphire (D) (A. Balding), Balding, 4-9-5 D. McCaskill 3
3 004-01 Sunsoon (D) (G. Greenwood), T. Fairhurst, 5-9-5 C. Fairhurst 7 2
4 4000- Mujon (D) (Mrs M. Johnson), P. Cundell, 6-9-1 M. Tobin 7 7
5 00-0410 Ritruda (C. Berlin), D. Marks, 8-9-8 ... D. Howie 7 5
8 000-02 Desperate Dee (D) (H. Swarbrick), J. Calvert [illegible]
10 000400- Knockabout (D) (R. Cable), D. Weeden, 6-8-2 ... D. Gibson [illegible]
11 00122-3 Ma's Baby (C) (Mrs C. Chapman), S. Nesbitt, 5-8-2 A. Crook [illegible]
12 [illegible] Dutch May (C. Buckton), M. W. Easterby, 5-7-11 ... [illegible]

[illegible] Dee, 11-2 Day Two, 7-1 Sunsoon, 8-1 Dutch May, [illegible] Knockabout, 16-1 Mujon.

**3.15 DANBY SELLING HANDICAP** (£658: 1m)

[illegible]

**3.45 STUDLEY ROYAL HANDICAP** (3-y-o: £579: 1m)

[illegible]

**4.15 FOUNTAINS PLATE** (2-y-o: £414: 5f)

[illegible]

**4.45 GREWELTHORPE PLATE** (2-y-o: £414: 5f)

[illegible]

**5.15 SPA WELTER PLATE** (£414: 1m 1f)

[illegible]

3-1 Zabaglione, [illegible] Romany Star, 5-1 Optimistic View, 11-2 [illegible], 7-1 Traga Bella, 9-1 Spectateur, 10-1 More Music, 14-1 Bright Cap, 20-1 others.

## Ripon selections

By Our Racing Staff
2.45 SUNSOON is specially recommended. 3.15 Revolution. 3.45 Fiery Cooper. 4.15 Sweet Nightingale. 4.45 Partridge Brook. 5.15 Traga Bella.

By Our Newmarket Correspondent
3.45 Vintage Girl.

## Newmarket selections

By Our Racing Correspondent
2.0 Alice Faye. 2.30 Knight Templar. 3.0 Amerrico. 3.35 Master Petard. 4.10 Mill's Bomb. 4.40 Euro Star.

By Our Newmarket Correspondent
2.0 Mimika. 2.30 Midsummer Lad. 3.0 Amerrico. 3.30 Master Petard. 4.10 Peter Prompt. 4.40 Euro Star.

## Cheltenham selections

By Our Racing Staff
2.0 Old Jolyon. 2.30 Merry Maker. 3.5 Magic Mountain. 3.40 Mr Straight. 4.15 Ballyrichard Again. 4.45 Just Jolly.

## Cheltenham programme

**2.0 CHELTENHAM HURDLE** (Div I: 4-y-o: novices: £676: 2m 200yds)

2 310004 Behest (E. Warren), C. Miller, 11-9 ... D. Cartwright
3 232341 Go Perrys (A. Latham), P. Cundell, 11-9 ... Mr A. Latham 7
4 0201 High Jump (R. Clarke), M. Scudamore, 11-9 ... J. Haine
6 000132 Old Jolyon (F. Bowles), C. Davies, 11-9 ... M. Salaman
7 000 Air Power (S. Savins), J. Bosley, 11-4 ... K. Maguire
8 0002 Ask For Roger (J. Kendrick), A. Jarvis, 11-4 ... S. A. Taylor
10 00 Bright Performance (C. Crosthwaite), N. Wakley, 11-4 N. Wakley
16 232023 Forlorn Raid (Mrs Hambro), L. Kennard, 11-4 ... E. Wright
17 0000 Goldburg (H. Mildenstein), D. Morley, 11-4 ... R. R. Davies
25 04 Rock Cole (P. Johnston), F. Forster, 11-4 ... G. Thorner
26 303 Samabula (E. Cohen), D. Dale, 11-4 ... R. Hughes
27 Spiffing (Mrs Gittins), H. Gittins, 11-4 ... R. Dickin 5
28 Sure Enough (E. Courage), Courage, 11-1 ... D. Mould

7-2 Forlorn Raid, 4-1 Old Jolyon, 11-2 High Jump, [illegible]

**2.30 GOLDEN MILLER STEEPLECHASE** (Handicap: £783: 3m 1f)

[illegible]

**3.5 GEORGE DULLER HURDLE** (Handicap: £2,072: 3m)

[illegible]

**3.40 RONALD ROYDS HURDLE** (£664: 2m)

[illegible]

**4.15 GRATWICKE BLAGRAVE STEEPLECHASE** (Handicap: £777: 2m)

[illegible]

**4.45 CHELTENHAM HURDLE** (Div II: 4-y-o: novices: £710: 2m 200yds)

[illegible]

## Chepstow results

**2.15 (2.30): ADAM AND EVE PLATE** (Division I: £311: 1m)

Startown, gr c, by Town Crier—Artemisia (D. Shaw), 3-11-2 Sarah Hollinshead (6-1) 1
Apprehend, ch g, by Appiani II—Nerissa (A. Smith), 4-11-4 Joy Penn (9-4 fav) 2
The Grandson, b c, by Prince Hansel—Raggotty Ann (H. Alper), 4-11-4 Jennifer Brown (9-2) 3

ALSO RAN: 10-1 Joint Endeavour (4th), 12-1 Vigo Bay, 14-1 Goldspur, 16-1 Clown Witness, Prince Hill, Shady Path, 33-1 Blue Gipsy, Mandy Jayne, Tutankhamens Corn. 12 ran.

TOTE: Win, 48p; places, 16p, 12p, 18p. R. Hollinshead, at Upper Longdon. 11, H. Emmi was withdrawn and did not come under starter's orders. Rule 4 does not apply. Price 33-1 at time of withdrawal.

**2.45 (2.48): SHOVELLER STAKES** (3-y-o: £365: 7f)

Distant Cousin, b c, by Baldric—Catherines Sister (Mrs M. Cove), 8-3 I. Johnson (11-4 fav) 1

[illegible]

**4.15 (4.15): PINTAIL HANDICAP** (3-y-o: £425: 1m 4f)

Horseguards, ch c, by Pall Mall—Teresa Aguesca (Lavinia Duchess of Norfolk), 7-5 Ron Hutchinson (1-2) 1
Carry On Father, ch c, by Continuation—Nyn (A. Stroud), 7-4 D. McKay (20-1) 2
Oliver Cromwell, ch c, by Great Nephew—Lochaline (P. Wheatley), 7-13 ... A. Cressy (8-1) 3

ALSO RAN: 6-1 Tudor Flame, 8-1 Christmas Comet, 14-1 Jim Colner (4th), 20-1 The Golden Rule. 7 ran.

TOTE: Win, 11p; places, 11p, 33p; dual forecast, £1.07. J. Dunlop, at Arundel. 8l, 5l.

**4.45 (4.47): TEAL PLATE** (Div I: £311: 5f)

Proud Felix, b c, by St Alphege—Carlingford (J. Lory), 9-0 D. McKay (4-4 fav) 1
Chop-Chop, br c, by Birdbrook—Flying Escape (M. Old), 9-0 A. Bond (7-1) 2
Flying Boy, ch c, by Darling Boy—Packfong (I. Maddocks), 3-13 M. Williams (20-1) 3

ALSO RAN: 4-1 Charlotte Beacon, 7-1 Deadly Sin, Marihol, 8-1 Aquitra [illegible]

[illegible]

## Newmarket

[illegible]

'ORT

otball

# ngland must be hard on the weak

orman Fox

land's European champion- match against Cyprus at ley tonight (7.45) is pre- ly the easiest they have since winning the World n 1966, and certainly more rtable than the tasks of ern Ireland, who play slavia in Belfast, and Wales, ng Hungary in Budapest. oxically, England's game a self-made challenge, that ng hard on weak opponents ething rarely achieved in the prior to the appointment of evie as manager.

Revie, who has set a mini- target of four goals, has what he would probably er almost his ideal selection; ly absentee being Francis, een's Park Rangers, who is . Any controversy is in a key: Shilton replaces ce in goal, not a shattering because Mr Revie feels layers are equals, though nce, I believe, is in better Beattie, potentially the best ive-midfield player for gains his first cap out of n as a left-side defender; all is confirmed as captain, a forward-looking policy ward for being an inspiration last match against West ny. Hughes, the previous , is chosen only as a ute.

Johnson not been injured Ipswich Town's match on y, he might well have re- Macdonald, but, here again, ection was a matter of per- preference. It could have that, given a choice, Mr would still have seen Mac- as the man for the day. ll, Cyprus are a team weak- y the deaths of two of their ayers during fighting on the and not expecting anything m a fairly substantial defeat damp grass of Wembley will show up any basic n skill. The sight of Mac- rushing at their retreating e could be intimidating.

t from recalling Shilton, Mr only two changes from the who beat West Germany last are the return of Madeley right side of the defence e introduction of Beattie. rth, of Leicester City, and , of Queen's Park Rangers, arily drop out of the reck- both having proved to be men to have in reserve. sly, Mr Revie does not want rfere with the forward line ough Channon has not been ding in recent weeks.

Bell and Hudson should the midfield so completely England do not score half n goals they will have failed. must snatch at this oppor- because, in this competition, goal difference could be crucial and Portugal and Czechoslovakia, the other members of the group, will not be kind to Cyprus.

Officials with the Cypriot team have emphasized the problems involved in playing on heavy turf also the difficulties of building team spirit at such a difficult time. However, Mr Revie has received reports that Cyprus have played together for six months. He is also concerned about the return match in Limassol on May 11 when England may have to play on a grassless, bumpy pitch. That is the incentive for scoring a hatful of goals tonight.

Northern Ireland's match against Yugoslavia (5.0) will be of more political than sporting significance. It will be the first international in Belfast for nearly four years, although several leading Continental club teams have played there. England will be among the countries waiting to see whether assurances that everything is safe for players and spectators have substance.

The Irish must beat Yugoslavia to retain any real interest in the competition. This puts great pressure on David Clements, the Everton player who has just taken over from Terry Neill as player-manager. Yesterday he announced a team with only one newcomer, Spence, of Bury, a forward. Clements said: "We must attack in this match. It is essential for everyone to come forward and pressurize the Yugoslavs." Northern Ireland and Yugoslavia are joint leaders of their group.

Wales are second to Austria in their group and have already beaten Hungary in Wales. The manager, Michael Smith, sees no reason not to win again especially as Hungary have suffered several disappointments. They have had three managers in six months and tonight (5.30) drop Bene, 74 times an international, in favour of Kozmar, who is the leading scorer in the Hungarian league. Wales should be be happy with a draw because, according to their captain, Yorath, they will beat Austria and Luxembourg.

ENGLAND: P. Shilton (Stoke City); P. Madeley (Leeds United), D. Watson (Sunderland), C. Todd (Derby County), K. Beattie (Ipswich Town), C. Bell (Manchester City), A. Ball (Arsenal, captain), A. Hudson (Stoke City), M. Channon (Southampton), M. Macdonald (Newcastle United), K. Keegan (Liverpool). Reserves: R. Clemence (Liverpool), E. Hughes (Liverpool), R. Kenyon (Everton), D. Tueart (Manchester City), D. Thomas (Queen's Park Rangers).

CYPRUS (from): Alkiviades (Epa), A. Constantinos (Ael), F. Styllanos (Anorthosis Fista), Kovis (Anorthosis Fista), K. Constantinos (Pezoporikos), Kyzas (Paralimni), S. Stylianou (Ael), Koureas (Ethnikos), Charalambous (Omonia), Michael (Apoel), A. Stylianou (Apoel, captain), Marcou (Apoel), Efthymiades (Olympiakos), Savva (Omonia), Theouros (Epa), Pentzarav (Apoel), Yiolides (Apollon), Asprou (Pol), A. Constantinou (Paralimni).

HUNGARY: K. Meszaros; P. Torok, L. Balint, J. Nagy, J. Horvath, J. Toth, K. Csapo, L. Kocsis, L. Branikovits, M. Kozma, J. Mate.

WALES: D. Davies (Everton); M. Page (Birmingham City), J. Roberts (Birmingham City), R. Thomas (Derby County), L. Phillips (Aston Villa), J. Mahoney (Stoke City), T. Yorath (Leeds United, captain), A. Griffiths (Wrexham), G. Reece (Cardiff City), J. Toshack (Liverpool), L. James (Burnley).

NORTHERN IRELAND: P. Jennings (Tottenham Hotspur); P. Rice (Arsenal), S. Nelson (Arsenal), C. Nicholl (Aston Villa), A. Hunter (Ipswich Town), D. Clements (Everton, captain), B. Hamilton (Ipswich Town), M. O'Neill (Nottingham Forest), D. Spence (Bury), S. McIlroy (Manchester United), T. Jackson (Nottingham Forest).

YUGOSLAVIA: Petrovic (Red Star); Muzinic (Hajduk Split), Hadziabdic (Velez Mostar), Peruzovic (Hajduk Split), Katalinski (Sarajevo, captain), Buljan (Hajduk Split), Danovic (Red Star), Tukotic (Partisan Belgrade), Objak (Hajduk Split), Jerkovic (Hajduk Split), Surjak (Hajduk Split).

Andreas Stylianou (left) captain of Cyprus, and the team manager, Pambos Avraamides, get a taste of a typical English spring day in London yesterday.

## w Britain stands in the European championship

1

| | P | W | D | L | F | A | Pts |
|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|
| l | 2 | 1 | 1 | 0 | 3 | 0 | 3 |
| al | 1 | 0 | 1 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 1 |
| slovak | 1 | 0 | 0 | 1 | 0 | 3 | 0 |
| | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 |

Group 2

| | P | W | D | L | F | A | Pts |
|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|
| Austria | 3 | 2 | 1 | 0 | 4 | 2 | 5 |
| Wales | 3 | 2 | 0 | 1 | 8 | 2 | 4 |
| Hungary | 3 | 1 | 1 | 1 | 4 | 4 | 3 |
| Luxembourg | 3 | 0 | 0 | 3 | 3 | 11 | 0 |

Group 3

| | P | W | D | L | F | A | Pts |
|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|
| Yugoslavia | 1 | 1 | 0 | 0 | 3 | 1 | 2 |
| N Ireland | 2 | 1 | 0 | 1 | 3 | 2 | 2 |
| Norway | 2 | 1 | 0 | 1 | 3 | 4 | 2 |
| Sweden | 1 | 0 | 0 | 1 | 0 | 2 | 0 |

# MacDougall one of three new caps for Scotland

Gothenburg, April 15.—The Scottish manager, William Ormond, today left his captain, Billy Bremner, and the four other Leeds United players out of his line-up to play Sweden here tomorrow (8.30).

Rangers's Sandy Jardine takes over as captain and the omission of the Leeds contingent—because of their European Cup commitments—opens the path for three new caps. They are the Norwich striker, MacDougall, and two Rangers players—the goalkeeper, Kennedy, and a defender, Jackson. A fourth uncapped player, Sunderland's Hughes, is chosen as a substitute.

The Swedish league resumed after a five-month break only last week and some players could be short of match practice. Sweden move their best striker Edstroem, who plays for the European Cup Winners' cup semi-finalists, PSV Eindhoven, to midfield. His place upfront is taken by 23-year-old Sjoeberg, whose only cap to date was against Norway last year.

The Celtic manager, Jock Stein, handling Scotland's under 23s, chose two newcomers in the side to play Sweden in the old stadium (6.0). They are a defender, Hansen, from Partick Thistle, and a Motherwell forward, Pettigrew. The Swedish under 23 side has not yet been announced.

SCOTLAND: S. Kennedy (Rangers); S. Jardine (Rangers), D. McGrain (Celtic), F. Munro (Wolverhampton Wanderers), C. Jackson (Rangers), R. Robinson (Dundee), G. Souness (Middlesbrough), K. Dalglish (Celtic), D. Parlane (Rangers), E. MacDougall (Norwich City), L. Macari (Manchester United).

SWEDEN: T. Ahlstroem, B. Andersson, J. Augustsson, R. Edstroem, L. Fredriksson, G. Hagerg, K. Karlsson, J. Mattsson, B. Nordqvist, T. Sjoeberg, C. Torstensson.

SCOTLAND UNDER-23: A. Rough (Partick Thistle), G. Burley (Ipswich Town), B. Houston (Manchester United), W. Miller (Aberdeen), A. Hansen (Partick Thistle), D. Bremner (Hibernian), A. Graham (Aberdeen), T. Craig (Newcastle United, captain), J. Pearson (Everton), W. Pettigrew (Motherwell), G. Smith (St Johnstone).—Reuter.

## Today's fixtures

**European championship**
England v Cyprus (Wembley, 7.45).
N Ireland v Yugoslavia (Windsor Park, Belfast, 5.0).
Hungary v Wales (in Budapest, 5.30).

**International match**
Sweden v Scotland (in Gothenburg, 8.30).

**Third division**
Brighton v Halifax (7.30).
Peterborough v Bournemouth (7.30).

**Fourth division**
Bradford C v Rotherham (7.30).
Chester v Darlington (7.30).

**Scottish second division**
Albion R v Alloa (7.30).
Hamilton v Falkirk (7.30).

SOUTHERN LEAGUE: Premier division: Grantham v Atherstone (7.30). First division, north: Bury Town v Cheltenham (7.30); King's Lynn v Bromsgrove (7.30). South: Basingstoke v Canterbury (7.30); Trowbridge v Poole (7.30).

NORTHERN PREMIER LEAGUE: Bangor v Buxton (7.30); Wigan v Gainsborough (7.30).

RUGBY UNION: Coventry v Birmingham (7.15); Bridgend v Cardiff (7.15); Cheltenham v Weston-super-Mare (7.0); Cross Keys v Glamorgan Wanderers (7.15); Gloucester v South Wales Police (7.0); Finchley v International XV (6.30); Newbridge v Bristol (6.15); Pontypridd v Penarth (7.0); Redruth v Penryn; Sale v Wilmslow (7.30); Saracens v Old Millhillians.

RUGBY LEAGUE: First division: Leeds v Rochdale (7.30); Warrington v Bramley (7.30); Wakefield v Wigan (7.30); Widnes v Bradford (7.30).

HOCKEY: Services championship (at Aldershot): Army v RAF (2.45); Army Under-22 v RAF Under-22 (10.30).

Horse trials

# Captain Phillips must remain on the sidelines at Badminton

By Pamela Macgregor-Morris

Captain Mark Phillips, holder of the Whitbread trophy with the Queen's horse, Columbus, is forced to postpone his attempt to win his fourth Badminton horse trials until next year. At yesterday evening's veterinary inspection, his horse, Persian Holiday, who had knocked himself in training a couple of days earlier, did not trot out quite sound. On veterinary advice, in view of the going, he had to be withdrawn.

A few days ago Captain Phillips also withdrew his second ride, Mr and Mrs T. Mills's Laureate, and thus he is now grounded throughout the entire three-day event. This is particularly bad luck for one of our leading riders. When he was in the lead following the cross-country in the world championships at Burghley last September, he was forced to withdraw Columbus, who slipped a hock ligament at the penultimate fence and is now recovering from an operation performed at Newmarket last November.

It was a warm, sunny afternoon yesterday on the eve of the start. But weekend rain has done its worst, and there was so much mud that competitors were not allowed to follow the usual practice of driving around the cross-country course, where Colonel Frank Weldon, the director and architect, has prepared several surprises for riders in this testing event. Instead, they set out on foot, and most will return for a second look at the fences before they tackle them mounted on Friday.

More of the original field of 89 have dropped out in the past 24 hours, notably the former world and European champion, Mary Gordon-Watson. She was due to ride Major Derek Allhusen's Waxwing. Nicholas Straker has pulled out Ruan, and Katherine Hill's Day Return is also on the list of withdrawals. Now 67 will come under orders today for the first of two days of dressage.

Competitors were briefed in the morning in the village hall and the horses were inspected in the splendid old stables behind Badminton House, which will be their home until Saturday by courtesy of the Duke of Beaufort. He has loaned his magnificent parks to the British Horse Society for a week each year since 1949.

The cross-country course runs in an opposite direction each year and this time will start in front of Badminton House. The Coffin has been replaced by a new version of the Pardubice "taxis", which is followed by another new obstacle, the Chevrons. Constructed in the form of a sergeant's stripes, it has at least four possible alternatives: a double bounce (no non-jumping stride between the first, second and third elements), a single bounce leading to a stride into a V-fence, a single rail and a corner or three single rails, which constitute the long way round.

Tom Smith's walls and the Centre Walk lead to another new fence, a Cotswold wall followed by a humped-back bank out of the Luckington Lane, at 11 and 12. The next new fence, like the "taxis", has a Czechoslovakian prototype. Known as the Snake fence, it is a double hedge set in a deep, wide ditch. After the Normandy bank the ski-jump returns, two of them in rapid succession, and riders return to base via the sunken road and the quarry, which has also had a face-lift.

The International Equestrian Federation has encouraged the ground jury at an international three-day event to hold random spot checks for drugs. As the president of the jury, the Marquis Mangalli of Italy, was also president at the world championships at Burghley last year when certain horses appeared to have been tranquillized and others stimulated, it seems certain that tests will be made, possibly at the end of each day.

The British Equestrian Federation sent a letter last week to the Bureau of the International Equestrian Federation informing them that they propose to grant an amateur permit to Malcolm Pyrah, following his appearance before an eligibility committee. The BEF wishes to propose to the International Olympic committee through the British Olympic Association that Pyrah be allowed to compete in the Olympic Games, if required to.

Although he was issued with a professional licence in 1972, he had never acted as such. The eligibility committee considered an appeal for him to be reinstated as an amateur, for his principal source of income is his business as the joint director with his step-brother of a drycleaning company. He received reimbursement only in the form of expenses from the owners of the horses he rides.

Rugby Union

# Scottish get new event off to good start

By Peter West
Rugby Correspondent

A hard and gripping final matched the occasion at Roehampton last evening when in front of an excellent crowd London Scottish beat London Welsh by 20—12 to win the inaugural London floodlit sevens competition staged by Rosslyn Park, and organized with all their customary efficiency. This attractive end of season event, involving 10 Metropolitan clubs, and those traditional experts, Loughborough Colleges, and St Lukes, has been well and truly launched and, with a bar extension until midnight, perhaps that is no bad way to describe it.

The outstanding speed of the British Lion, Rees, was soon in evidence in the last match when Hughes set him clear from a drop out on the Welsh 25. Robinson's left boot produced another two points, but Scottish got four back when Stevenson sent Friell galloping over on the right. Then Manfield, the Welsh prop, got a second try for the Welsh and Robinson's excellent conversion made it 12—4 at half time.

However, Scottish pressure either side of the interval had its reward when Crerar scored a second try from a nicely contrived scissors movement, and then Berthinussen roared over under the posts after another clever change of direction and a charge by Wright. Welsh tried everything they knew, including the kick-ahead for Rees to pursue, but Scottish rounded off a worthy victory with one more try, by Crerar—his fifth of the night.

The first semi-final produced an excellent match in which Crerar scored first for Scottish with a determined break on the left and Stevenson's conversion gave them a half-time lead over Harlequins of 6—0. Friell would have scored another try for them but for a splendid tackle by Wood.

Harlequins equalized with a fine try by Woodward, looping outside Wood. Bushell kicked the goal, whereupon Scottish staged another spectacular surge, and Berthinussen was sent clear on the right for another conversion by Stevenson.

Welsh threatened to run away with the other semi-final, against Richmond, when Rees and Hughes ran in breakaway tries from long range and a conversion by Robinson gave them an early lead. A long kick down the middle by Hullin then surrendered possession, and Richmond made the most of it, with McGrath running in behind the posts from all of 80 yards. Hurley kicked a goal. Jones sealed it for Welsh with a second-half try from short range. Richmond still had chances but lacked the bite and decision to accept them.

Welsh qualified for the semi-final round by beating Loughborough Colleges and then drawing with Blackheath, who later had their chances of a reprieve but failed to clinch them against Loughborough. Manfield, Rees and Hughes got tries for Welsh as they came from 0—10 down against Loughborough to win by six points. Rees, with a breakaway, and Jones were the scorers against Blackheath. For pace, strength and determination no tries were better all evening than the two notched by the burly Loughborough wing, Lambert.

LONDON SCOTTISH: C. Berthinussen, A. Friell, G. Stevenson, P. Crerar, H. MacKenzie, D. Pickering, R. Wright.

LONDON WELSH: C. Rees, K. Hughes, A. Robinson, W. Hullin, J. Manfield, A. Phillips, P. M. Jones.

POOL A: Rosslyn Park 0, London Scottish 10; Rosslyn Park 4, London Irish 8; London Scottish 25, London Irish 6.

POOL B: Metropolitan Police 6, St Luke's College 16; Metropolitan Police 0, Harlequins 14; St Luke's College 6, Harlequins 16.

POOL C: London Welsh 16, Loughborough Colleges 10; London Welsh 10, Blackheath 10; Loughborough Colleges 12, Blackheath 8.

POOL D: Saracens 14, Wasps 12; Saracens 10, Richmond 26; Wasps 0, Richmond 22.

Semi-final round: London Scottish 12, Harlequins 6; London Welsh 14, Richmond 6.

sh rackets

## ice boost for start ext season

s Bellamy
Rackets Correspondent

Patterson became the first professional to win the ager open squash rackets nent when he beat med Khalifa, the Egyptian ional at Stockton YMCA, -6, 9—5, 10—8 in last 's final at Wembley. The rewards are modest and ld, which essentially con- players attached to British is remarkable for size than quality. But this is ngest tournament in the running for six months, order to win it a man must strate both his ability and thusiasm for the game. presige of winning was par- y satisfying for the left- Patterson, who was born wick, lives at Walsall, and , on a freelance basis in idlands. He is among s three leading profes- but has had difficulty in hing himself internationally. on has had a disappointing first in terms of results ten in terms of fitness. d tendons behind his right put him out of the game month and have since in- his game

is is a nice boost for the of next season," he said ening. "I just hope this s going to get cleared up. n't play top class squash here's something like that back of your mind."

rson's aggression was shar- by the fact that he wanted quickly so that his ankle not be tested too severely. is on court for only 43 s. But he had to work for the first two games riefly seemed likely, as he -0 in the first and 6—2 in cond. In the third Khalifa -1 and had a game ball at But Patterson put him out length to the forehand and profitably invested in the which, together with angles everse angles, had always ated his game.

erson had more winning than the agile Khalifa and lways the more likely to the rallies one way or r. Khalifa had some trouble g round his brawny oppo- and may also have suffered his unquenchable good , which are seldom over- ed by the gravity of pas- rises.

r six months of germination huge tournament thus sud- burst into flower and then The promoters might reason- consider asking the last four y off on an all-play-all basis three days, thus providing ompetition with a more en- climax.

D PLACE PLAY-OFF: P. Ke- Hurlingham) beat A. Purnell ston Priory), 9—3, 2—9, 9—6, 9—1.

LLENGE FINAL: M. Lees (Grat- ondon) beat C. Toothill (Wolver- m), 3—9, 9—5, 9—5, 9—6.

ERANS FINAL: K. Williamson ton YMCA) beat G. Westbrook mpton), 9—3, 9—4, 9—1.

## C agree to move

C yesterday granted the l registration of Ron Head- the former Worcestershire West Indies opening batsman, y for Derbyshire next season. ill be eligible to assist them ll matches but is entering e cricket and is expected to for his new county only in lay games.

NTEGO BAY: Jamaica, 303 (J. 110, R. Austin 59, M. L. C. 61, L. Maxwell 4 for 73); 155 wkts dec (J. Dujon 43, V. A. 5 for 18, K. D. Boyce 3 for Barbados, 189 (C. King 69, L. 5 for 56), and 196 for 4 wkts 105 not out, H. Gordon 5 for

Golf

# Miss Redford puts on style to catch selectors' eye

By Lewine Mair

Some of the best figures at Ganton in the LGU trial sponsored by Uniroyal were yesterday produced by Anne Stant, the former British women's strokeplay champion. Having defeated Tegwen Perkins and Elizabeth Head in the morning, Mrs Stant went round in 77 against the par of 75 to canter home against Muriel Thomson, of Scotland, and the Welsh champion, Audrey Briggs.

Carole Redford, who came into the trials at the last moment when two of the Irish girls cried off, seized the opportunity of showing the selectors that she is right back to the form with which she won the Newmark tournament in 1973 by winning all her matches. The only other unbeaten players are Julia Greenhalgh and Sandra Needham.

Not surprisingly, it was the singles between Ann Irvin and Miss Perkins which attracted the most attention in the afternoon, most of the spectators finding the slow procession of three-ball matches which came behind too difficult to follow.

Nobody, least of all the players, likes three-ball matchplay golf and, to my mind, the only circumstances in which the officials could have been forgiven for adopting such a format would have been if everyone had been able to play everyone. Four rounds of medal play, believe several of the competitors, would have been a much better test.

One up on Miss Perkins after 15 holes, Miss Irvin chipped into a bunker to lose the 410-yard 16th. "It was", insisted the petite Curtis Cup golfer, "quite the silliest mistake I have ever made."

The short 17th was halved in three and Miss Irvin lost the match when she underclubbed with her second to the 375-yard 18th and failed to match Miss Perkins's four.

Round in 79 with no fewer than eight single putts, Miss Perkins was hitting some glorious shots in to the flag.

The rules for the Commonwealth tournament, the British team for which is to be picked today, state that each country may nominate a team of six, to include a playing or a non-playing captain. Inexplicably, the LGU have failed to take advantage of these rules for, instead of opting for a side of six actual players, they have decided on five players and a non-playing captain, albeit a very good one, in Belle Robertson.

Miss C. Redford (Canterbury) beat Mrs A. Briggs (Royal Liverpool) 3 up.
Miss S. Needham (Cawder) beat Miss J. Lee Smith (Gosforth) 6 up and Miss G. Cadden (Cardross) 13 up.
Miss Lee Smith beat Miss Cadden 10 up.
Mrs A. Stant (Beau Desert) beat Miss T. Perkins (Wenvoe Castle) 2 up, and Mrs E. Head (Colchester) 2 up.
Miss Perkins beat Mrs Head 1 up.
Miss A. Irvin (Royal Lytham and St Annes) beat Miss L. Harrold (Gerrards Cross) 3 up and Miss P. Light (Whitchurch) 8 up.
Miss Harrold beat Miss Light 9 up.
Miss S. Cadden (Cardross) halved with Miss J. Greenhalgh (Pleasington) and with Miss M. Thomson (Merthyr).
Miss Greenhalgh halved with Miss Thomson.
Miss Perkins beat Miss Irvin 1 up.
Mrs Stant beat Miss Thomson 6 up and Mrs Briggs 10 up.
Miss Thomson beat Mrs Briggs 4 up.
Miss Greenhalgh beat Mrs Head and Miss Lee Smith 5 up.
Mrs Head beat Miss Lee Smith 1 up.
Miss Needham beat Miss Harrold 2 up and Miss S. Cadden 4 up.
Miss Harrold halved with Miss S. Cadden.
Miss Redford beat Miss G. Cadden 7 up and Miss Light 6 up.
Miss G. Cadden beat Miss Light 2 up.

## Father and Son foursomes

A storm which flooded most of the greens caused play to be abandoned in the father and son foursomes golf tournament at West Hill golf club yesterday. Only 19 of the scheduled 64 first round matches had been completed.

FIRST ROUND RESULTS: B. M. G. and M. H. Pryor (West Hill) (25) beat D. M. and I. M. Nunn (Moor Park) (16) 2 and 1; Dr F. L. and R. F. Dyson (Royal Porthcawl) (19) beat G. and A. Goodrich (Rye/Royal Worlington) (25) 4 and 3; P. P. and C. A. Maudsley (Camberley Heath) (15) beat D. R. and K. R. Broadhurst (Moor Park) (17) at 19th; P. and S. Tothake (Wimbledon) (12) beat D. E. and P. D. Anderson (Redhill and Reigate) (15) 4 and 3; K. V. and K. J. R. Robshaw (Parkstone) (17) beat J. A. and H. J. Kempton (Roehampton) (21) 5 and 3; D. G. and K. Trickett (Broadstone/Ferndown) (17) beat W. and C. Pearce (Royal North Devon/West Hill) (15) 5 and 4.

D. P. and J. G. Choyce (Rochford Hundred) (19) beat J. A. and P. A. Murphy (Filton) (19) 3 and 3; M. M. and P. M. Lawson (Stoneham) (12) beat C. H. and M. F. Beamish (Woodhall Spa) (8) at 20th; M. S. and J. M. T. Warman (Sandy Lodge) (21) beat J. R. M. and I. Disey (Pinner Hill) (22) 3 and 2; Dr R. G. and P. P. Seaver (Frilford Heath) (10) beat E. L. and A. M. Halliwell (Stoke Poges/Royal Worlington) (16) 3 and 2; T. E. D. and T. H. Harker (Sunningdale) (16) beat P. W. and S. G. Huddle (Stoke Poges) (22) at 19th; J. and A. J. Baldwin (Calcot Park) (13) beat S. T. and T. J. Clarke (West Hill) (20) 3 and 2; J. T. and B. M. Rose (Guildford) (11) wo; B. L. B. and M. B. Hutchings (St Enodoc/West Hill) (20) beat C. H. and C. G. Humfrey (Piltdown) (22) 3 holes.

A. B. and P. J. Martin (Llanymynech) (10) beat D. H. and P. Goodlife (Addington) (22) 3 and 1; W. E. and K. S. Gallon (Farnham/West Hill) (7) beat H. W. and A. W. Bailey (Cuddington) (13) 2 and 1; Dr J. N. and A. J. Hutton (Croham Hurst) (20) beat G. and J. Fletcher (Royal St George's) (19) 4 and 3; A. G. P. and A. S. P. Leschallas (Rye) (15) beat G. S. and K. Turnbull (Pinner) (21) 3 and 2; P. W. S. and G. P. Bonn (Chislehurst) (16) beat K. E. R. and P. J. R. Webb (Walton Heath) (15) 4 and 3.

## Baseball

AMERICAN LEAGUE: Oakland Athletics 5, Kansas City Royals 2. NATIONAL LEAGUE: Philadelphia Phillies 4, New York Mets 3; San Diego Padres 3, San Francisco Giants 1; Chicago Cubs 4, Pittsburgh Pirates 2; Los Angeles Dodgers 5, Cincinnati Reds 2.

## Ice hockey

DUSSELDORF: World championship: Czechoslovakia 6, US 0.

## Snooker

SYDNEY: World professional championship: D. Taylor (GB) beat R. King (Australia), 19—11; W. Werbeniuk (Canada) beat J. Meadowcroft (GB) 17—15; G. Owen (Australia) beat D. Greaves (GB) 35—4.

## Cricket

PORT OF SPAIN: Shell Shield: Trinidad 259 and 352; Combined Islands 209 and 282 for 9 (J. Allen 96, M. Camacho 53). Match drawn. Guyana win shield with 28 pts to Combined Islands 26.

## Tennis

CUMBERLAND CLUB: First round: M. S. Wilson beat C. R. Workman (New Zealand), 6—2, 6—1; C. P. Lalo beat P. R. Thomas, 6—1, 6—4; A. H. Lloyd beat J. Preston, 6—0, 6—1; M. Smith beat K. Havelock, 6—3, 6—1; A. M. Jarrett beat A. Holmes, 6—2, 6—3; G. A. Johnson beat R. Holmes, 6—1, 6—1; R. Frawley (Australia) beat D. Kancars, 6—1, 7—5; P. Brodnam beat C. Hamilton, 6—2, 6—3; P. Tattersall, W. J. Gowans beat J. 6—1, 6—0; C. Wong Wah beat C. J. Duthie, 6—0, rtd; F. S. Field beat P. A. Hurvey, 6—0, 6—0; W. Mason (Australia) beat J. Jones, 3—6, 7—6, 6—3; N. Kljovitz beat R. Joost (South Africa), 6—7, 6—4, 6—3; C. S. Wells beat J. P. Archer (Surrey), 6—4, 6—4; I. Johnson (Australia) beat M. Grivo, 4—6, 6—3, 6—1; A. Gardiner (Australia) beat P. Williams, 6—2, 6—1; R. Levy beat J. J. Butler, 6—4, 7—5.

Mrs G. T. Jones beat Miss C. M. Coraic (Australia), 6—3, 6—1.

TOKYO: M. Cox beat Y. Kato, 6—0, 6—1; C. Drysdale beat M. Estop, 6—1, 7—6; J. Kamiwazumi beat C. Stilwell, 6—1, 6—3; H. Rahim beat T. Edlalsen, 6—2, 6—3; G. Ballrick beat K. Tanabe, 6—4, 6—0; R. Lutz beat R. Reid, 6—3, 6—3; M. Holecek beat N. Uehara, 6—1, 6—1; S. Smith beat Y. Tozuka, 6—1, 6—2.

Rackets

# Boone and Pugh are taken to seven games

By Roy McKelvie

William Boone and Thomas Pugh were taken to seven games and the Crawley brothers, Andrew and Randall, to six in the amateur rackets doubles championship at Queen's Club yesterday. The majority of matches so far played have been close, and the indications are that they will continue to be so. There are some useful pairs in the event.

Boone and Pugh beat James Rogers and Michael Hooper, who has played some cricket for Surrey over the past few years, by 15—10, 14—16, 15—2, 15—12, 16—17, 13—15, 15—5, and not until the final game did the losers wilt against two stronger hitters and servers. The winners might have gone out in four games as they had a point for the second, and should have done so in five when they had two match points. Pugh hit the first out of court, at 14—9, and Boone was beaten by the bounce of the ball on the second at 16—16.

Except in the third and seventh games, which Pugh, with his wide experience, dominated aggressively, the losers showed considerable tenacity. Rogers in the backhand court was beaten only by the fiercest shots from Boone and was rarely outhit by Pugh. He has not played better this season.

Hooper came seriously into the match at the end of the second game, when saving a game point with a drop shot. But it was his play in the fifth, by which time he had found a service length, that kept the match alive for a couple more games.

The Crawley brothers beat the former Clifton first pair, John Willcocks, a Cambridge Blue, and David Parsons, by 15—9, 15—6, 0—15, 8—15, 15—7, 15—3.

RESULTS: First round: A. H. Crawley and R. Crawley beat J. P. Willcocks and D. O. Parsons 15—9, 15—6, 0—15, 8—15, 15—7, 15—3; C. J. M. Pugh and W. R. Boone beat J. K. Rogers and J. M. M. Hooper 15—10, 14—16, 15—2, 15—12, 16—17, 13—15, 15—5; D. C. Jenkins and J. W. Leonard beat P. F. C. Begg and B. R. Weatherill 15—10, 15—7, 15—10, 15—5.

## Results yesterday

**Second division**
Orient (1) 1 Bristol C (0) 0
Possee (6,487)

**Third division**
Plymouth (0) 1 Colchester (0) 0
Mariner (23,331)
Plymouth promoted.

**Fourth division**
Northampton (0) 1 Torquay (0) 1
Oman Brown
(2,658)
Scunthorpe (0) 1 Brentford (1) 2
Pilling Cross
(1,430) Graham
Workington (0) 1 Hartlepool (1) 1
Skillen Moore
(1,308)
Newport (1) 2 Reading (1) 2
Woodruff Ashton
Parsons Hancock (og)
(1,056)

**Scottish first division**
Airdrie (3) 5 Dunfermline (1) 2
Menzies Shaw
March (3) Watson
Franchattie

**Scottish second division**
E Stirling (1) 2 Q of South (3) 4
Alrakin Bryce
Stein Reid
Dempster (pen)
Stirling (og)

SOUTHERN LEAGUE: Premier division: Cambridge City 4, Margate 1; Kettering 2, Chelmsford 3; Telford 2, Maidstone 1. First division, north: Corby 1, Gloucester 3; Milton 1, Worcester 2; Wellingborough 1, Redditch 1. South: Dorchester 3; Metropolitan Police 1, Bideford 3.

ISTHMIAN LEAGUE: First division: Bromley 1, Clapton 1; Hendon 3, Ilford 3; Oxford City 6, Walton and Hersham 0; Slough 0, Enfield 1; Sutton 1, Dagenham 3; Woking 3, Barking 0; Wycombe 1, Dulwich 1.

ATHENIAN LEAGUE: First division: Cheshunt 1, Letchworth 0; Erith and Belvedere 0, Marlow 2; Grays 3, Lewes 1; Hornchurch 4, Ware 2; Wembley 0, Ruislip 1.

RUGBY UNION: Cardiff 30, Bath 12; Birkenhead Park 10, Liverpool 20; Bridgwater and Albion 10, Plymouth Albion 10; Ebbw Vale 7, Pontypool 32; Sutton and Epsom 16, Antlers 0.

RUGBY LEAGUE: First division: St Helens 36, Dewsbury 14.

Peter Jay, Economics Editor, assesses the effects of the Budget

# Mr Healey dares his fate to gain or lose it all

The Chancellor, it seems, has chosen to give absolute priority to what he sees as the economic imperatives of Britain's situation and to consign conventional ideas of the limitations imposed by political possibility to the waste-paper-basket. By doing so he has passed the responsibility for Britain's salvation firmly to the people of the country as a whole.

He has done all that a Chancellor could conceivably have been asked to do; and, if we react by rejecting his measures politically or by nullifying them economically, then the responsibility for the ensuing disaster will be ours and ours alone. No one can say that the Chancellor did not give us the chance or that he was too fearful of the political consequences to propose the necessary measures. Mr Healey has dared indeed to put his fate and ours to the touch to gain or lose it all.

The first striking thing about the arithmetic of the Budget is how much worse the ravages of inflation on public finance have been than even the most sophisticated and learned private calculations had supposed. In terms of the all-important public sector financial deficit (a purer and more relevant measure than the more popular public sector borrowing requirement), the deficit in the year just ended (1974-75) had risen to £5,914m and was forecast to reach £8,892m in 1975-76 in the absence of new measures in the Budget.

It is hard to apprehend the scale of these figures; but some idea is given by reflecting that the pre-Budget deficit projected for this year would have been more than 10 per cent of the value of our total national output. The Budget measures cut it to a bit over 8 per cent (£7,571m) and are planned to cut it by £3,000m in 1976-77, to less than 6 per cent of gross domestic product.

The need for such drastic changes lay, of course, in the reasons which forced the figures up to such super-inflationary levels in the first place. Partly—as to about half the increase in the pre-Budget public sector borrowing requirement over last year's outturn (from £7,602m to £10,256m)—the increase has been due simply to the rapid increase in inflationary conditions in both the income and outgoings sides of the Government's accounts and therefore in the difference between those two huge magnitudes.

But partly also the increase reflects the real increases in public expenditure which the Cabinet quite deliberately authorized as a matter of policy in the Public Expenditure White Paper published at the end of January. And partly again the increases reflect the effects of recent exceptional large rises in public sector rates of pay and the twice-yearly up-rating of social security benefits.

In a real sense those are the things we shall be paying for when we face the burdens of extra taxes, reduced subsidies, higher nationalized industry prices and curtailed public services, which the Chancellor announced yesterday. To that extent also it is misleading to regard the Budget as deflationary in the sense in which that term was properly used of the fiscal policies of the British and American authorities at the beginning of the 1930s, though comparisons will doubtless be made between Mr Healey and such predecessors as Philip Snowden.

A Budget which finishes up with a projected public sector borrowing requirement equal to more than 8 per cent of the value of national output, and with a full borrowing requirement of more than 10 per cent, can hardly be said to be deflationary, even when accompanied by a large prospective balance of payments deficit of about £2,750m. The deflationary force in the economy at present is the untenable rate of inflation.

Paradoxical as that may sound, it is vital to understand the constricting effect on purchasing power which soaring prices have. In such a situation the only way that spending, measured in real terms, can be kept up to the level needed to maintain full employment, is to print new money and issue it through the Government's financial deficit faster than prices are eroding the purchasing power of existing monetary demand.

FORECASTS OF EXPENDITURE, IMPORTS AND GROSS DOMESTIC PRODUCT(1)

£ million at 1970 prices, seasonally adjusted

| | Consumers' expenditure | Public expenditure on goods and services: Public authorities' consumption | Public investment | Total | Private fixed investment | Exports of goods and services | Investment in stocks | Total final expenditure | Less imports of goods and services | Less adjustment to factor cost | Gross domestic product at factor cost | GDP index 1970 = 100 |
|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|
| 1972 ... ... | 34,150 | 9,750 | 3,950 | 13,700 | 5,850 | 12,350 | −50 | 66,000 | 12,500 | 8,550 | 44,950 | 104·1 |
| 1973 ... ... | 35,750 | 10,100 | 3,950 | 14,050 | 6,250 | 13,500 | 650 | 70,200 | 13,900 | 9,000 | 47,300 | 109·6 |
| 1974 ... ... | 35,700 | 10,300 | 4,050 | 14,350 | 5,900 | 14,250 | −50 | 70,150 | 14,000 | 8,900 | 47,250 | 109·5 |
| 1975 ... ... | 36,350 | 10,800 | [illegible] | 14,800 | 5,550 | 14,350 | −400 | 70,650 | 13,650 | 9,100 | 47,900 | 110·9 |
| *Percentage changes* | | | | | | | | | | | | |
| First half 1973 to first half 1974 ... | −1·0 | 2·0 | 3·5 | 2·5 | −4·0 | 7·0 | | −0·5 | 3·5 | −2·0 | −1·5(2) | |
| Second half 1973 to second half 1974 ... ... | 1·0 | 2·0 | — | 1·5 | −6·5 | 4·5 | | 0·5 | −1·5 | 0·0 | 1·5 | |
| First half 1974 to first half 1975 ... | 3·5 | 5·0 | −2·5 | 2·5 | −5·0 | 0·0 | | 1·5 | −4·0 | 4·0 | 2·5(2) | |
| Second half 1974 to second half 1975 ... ... | — | 4·5 | 1·0 | 3·5 | −5·5 | 1·0 | | — | −1·0 | 0·5 | — | |
| First half 1975 to first half 1976 ... | — | 3·5 | 2·0 | 3·0 | −4·0 | 5·0 | | 2·0 | 4·5 | — | 1·5 | |
| *Percentage changes at annual rate* | | | | | | | | | | | | |
| Second half 1973 to first half 1975 | 1·5 | 3·0 | — | 2·0 | −6·5 | 3·5 | | — | −3·0 | 1·5 | 0·5 | |
| Second half 1974 to first half 1976 | 0·5 | 4·0 | 1·0 | 3·0 | −5·0 | 4·0 | | 1·0 | 1·0 | 1·5 | 1·0 | |

(1) All figures in Table 3 are based on "compromise" estimates of gross domestic product.
(2) Affected by fuel shortages which reduced output early in 1974.
*Note:* Figures in £ million are rounded to £50 million. Percentage changes are calculated from unrounded levels in £ million and then rounded to 0·5 per cent. The GDP index in the final column is calculated from unrounded numbers.

Mr Healey has declined any longer to do that; and, in so refusing, he has made the biggest departure in Budget-making since the notion of balancing supply and demand in the economy as a whole as the proper purpose of the annual Budget was first introduced 34 years ago by Sir Kingsley Wood.

Yesterday's Budget is still, objectively, pumping an enormous amount of spending power into the economy—to the extent indeed of several thousand million pounds more than the Cambridge Economic Policy Group thought would be consistent with getting the balance of payments deficit down to what even it regarded as optimistically financeable levels by 1978.

But it is pumping in less than would be necessary to offset the effects of raging inflation on purchasing power, which is why the Chancellor's conventional economic forecasts (as set out in the table) exhibit a profile of deepening recession between now and the middle of next year. Indeed, the Chancellor's claim that national output will rise at an annual rate of 1 per cent over the period from the second half of last year to the first half of next, and his hope that unemployment will not do much more than touch 1,000,000 next winter, must be regarded as highly sanguine.

Likewise the suggestion t[…] consumption will be the sa[…] in the first half of next y[…] as in the first half of this pr[…]ably puts a braver face on w[…] must in reality be a less co[…]fortable prospect. Everyth[…] ultimately depends now on […] course of pay settlements.

The Chancellor's own cal[…]lation is that even if pay set[…]ments continue to run at ab[…] the present level for the r[…] of this year, inflation sho[…] ease off to about 1 per cen[…] month after the effects of […] Budget itself have work[…] through by mid-summer. If t[…] is right and if the Budget d[…] not itself spark off anot[…] step-up in pay demands and thereafter pay norms fol[…] inflation downwards, […] economy could get to the […] of 1976 with nothing worse t[…] the deepest recession since […] war.

If, on the other hand, […] Chancellor's strategy is rejec[…] and people fight back direc[…] against its impact on expec[…] living standards, then it is h[…] to doubt that the last br[…] attempt to halt Brit[…] economic decline will be sw[…] away in a holocaust of inflat[…] and strife from which little economic or political va[…] would be likely to survive.

## Andrew Faulds

# Rescuing a bit of splendour in the Strand

Once upon a time I made a proposition to Margaret Thatcher. She blushed slightly: not with embarrassment, nor, doughty daughter of the revolution that she is, with bashfulness. I believed then—and still do—that it was the anticipation of delight that suffused those cheeks. But more of that anon.

> 'It is a public secret that Dr Roy Strong, who will have to administer the theatre museum as an outpost of the Victoria and Albert, is strongly opposed to the scheme, but silenced by his departmental gag.'

At the heart of London lies a building magnificent in its proportions yet fallen into improper hands and use. Unfrequented by the public, who rarely peep beyond its four facades, its rooms now resound to the clatter of clerical typewriters. For the Civil Service has weevilled its way, over 200 years, into total occupancy.

Somerset House is one of the glories of London. Its recovery and regeneration are proving a tricky task. A number of eminent public figures had voiced concern about its future for some years. And then—and *The Times* is a gracious enough old lady to pay compliments to a sprightly debutante—the *Evening Standard* in collaboration with the advertising agents, Ogilvy and Mather, launched a campaign to Wake up the Sleeping Palace on the Thames. Simon Jenkins, a concerned journalist, masterminded the press campaign, and a group of about 40 MPs formed an active lobby to clear the four-spread splendour of the place for more fitting public purposes of performance and display.

The intention was to achieve the vacation by the Civil Service of the Strand block with its fine rooms, including the gallery designed by Sir William Chambers in the 1770s for the Royal Academy and the removal of the Probate Registry Department from the River range which had once housed the Admiralty (before its transfer from the water to Whitehall) and the Maritime Museum (which had moved up-river to Greenwich). A sculpted Neptune and the sweep of the Nelson staircase attest those seafaring purposes.

The need for the Probate Registry Department to remain near the neighbouring Law Courts was understood, and could be met by its transfer to the west wing now inhabited by the Inland Revenue. These changed uses would decant about a 1,000 civil servants out of central London and afford much needed—and more appropriate—gallery space.

The enclosed courtyard, packed with parked cars, provides an ideal site for summer concerts, exhibitions of open air sculpture or son et lumiere. And the river terrace, now closed to seal the seclusion of the public servants, must reopen as the walkway it once was.

Julian Amery, then the minister responsible, showed considerable sympathy. He remarked that his grandmother had promenaded along that stretch of terrace. The prospect of using the Strand block and the River wing for another national collection aroused real interest. The repeated and most popular suggestion was for a gallery of British art which would, of course, encompass the rising demand for the long overdue display of Turner's bequest. The technical demands of light and temperature control could be met if the will were there to establish—and finance—such usage. Success seemed surprisingly possible.

And then Lord Eccles popped the political ploy that punctured the whole project. He had made himself somewhat unpopular with his universally reviled museum charges. To meet the continuing clamour for a collection to celebrate Britain's remarkable theatrical history would win him plaudits. So the fine rooms in the Strand block were designated for that purpose. And the impetus of the campaign dwindled away.

Everyone who knew the enormous amount of theatrical material available in the various collections (the Eindhoven, the Mander-Mitchison, the Leighton House, the Buckle ballet, the Irving costumes in skips at Stratford and so on) and anyone who made a cursory examination of these rooms realized how unrealistic the project was and how unsuitable the accommodation.

Some parliamentary colleagues and I argued this at the time in a letter in the neighbouring columns, both on the ground of the mass of material and limitations of space and because this use would preclude the recovery of other parts of the place.

In the interim a much more suitable site in the heart of Covent Garden, a callboy's shout a way from a dozen theatres, has become available for a theatre museum. The Flower Market, a splendid, roomy edifice now empty and unlit, is ideal for the display of theatrical impedimenta and ephemera, such as sets, costumes and props. Now a growing and knowledgeable lobby in the theatre and museum worlds is pressing for reconsideration. And it is a public secret that Dr Roy Strong, who will have to administer the theatre museum as an outpost of the Victoria and Albert, is strongly opposed to the scheme, but silenced by his departmental gag.

The reputation of the under secretary with responsibility for the arts is not so coruscating that he should wilfully dismiss a body of informed disapproval. He might merit mention in some future footnote if he thought again.

Has Hugh Jenkins the concern—and the courage—to rescind this rushed and wrong decision? The future use of Somerset House could then be looked at anew. And the Strand and River blocks and the central courtyard and the river terrace would be cleared of their long bondage to the bureaucrats, and freed for public use and private pleasure.

For Margaret Thatcher has a date with me. Although she did not actually accept, she did not definitely decline my invitation in Commons question time to walk hand in hand with me along that reopened river walk. I should be happier, of course, to promenade with a carefree backbencher than parade with a preoccupied Prime Minister!

*The author is Labour MP for Warley, East.*



## Bernard Levin

# A forced trek on the long road from Alice

I do assure you that I am not going to make a habit of filling this space with the contributions of others, but after last week's moving account, from a complete stranger, of his first-hand experience of Soviet tyranny, the coincidence provided by another letter that has just landed on my desk, this time from South Africa, is too neat to be resisted.

I have myself written here about the Federal Theological Seminary of Southern Africa, the existence of which had long proved unendurable to the Vorster regime, as its staff and students not only studied and taught Christianity, but actually lived it, demonstrating by their own example that people of different races can live together in harmony and love. It was therefore decided that the Seminary must be destroyed; the pretext was a claim that its land and buildings were needed by the neighbouring Fort Hare University. (This institution is for black students only (though of course white-run) and the authorities were especially disturbed at the thought that they, instead of docilely accepting an education fitting them for a permanently inferior status, might look next door and see the living refutation of the lie by which South Africa lives.) As I recounted here, the Seminary was served, towards the end of last year, with an expropriation order: what followed is set out in the following letter, written from Umtata, in the Transkei, to which the teachers and ordinands went.

"You will remember that in March 1971 the University asked us to sell them our property and that after consultation with the churches concerned, the Council in April 1973 refused to sell. We feared expropriation then but as time elapsed this danger seemed unlikely; our reply was acknowledged and then there was silence.

"Immediately on receipt of the notice of expropriation we consulted our legal advisers but learnt with dismay that the expropriation under Section 13 (1) of the Bantu Trust and Land Act, 1936, provided no machinery for contesting the expropriation in the courts. Compensation can be claimed both for the market value of the property and for the loss incurred by the expropriation.

"On December 12 the Seminary Council decided to urge the Minister of Bantu Affairs to reverse his decision to expropriate. A delegation requested an interview with the Minister which eventually took place on February 3 in Cape Town. A memorandum was sent to the Minister before the meeting and our case was cogently argued by Bishop Alphaeus Zulu. But it was clear at the interview that the Minister was unwilling to reconsider and that the delegation's efforts were in vain. They were told that the Minister was appointing the Rector of Fort Hare as his agent and that the Seminary would be treated fairly. This led the more sanguine among us to hope that there would be time to rebuild elsewhere and that we would be allowed to occupy our building at Alice until a new Seminary was ready.

"The day after the interview with the Minister the Seminary's legal advisers were informed that the Seminary should negotiate by February 10 with the Rector if it wished to use any of the expropriated premises. Within the time stipulated we informed the Rector that we wished to continue to occupy all our buildings and explained why this was necessary. The Rector at the interview on Friday, February 7, said he would consider our request and send his answer the following Monday.

"On Monday the answer came. We were informed that it had been decided that at 8.30 am the following Monday, February 17, the University would occupy St Columba's and St Peter's College buildings. On March 1 the two staff houses belonging to St Columba's should also be handed over for use by the University. The Seminary could occupy the rest of its buildings until the end of 1975, but that then the University would take over the entire Seminary. In his letter the Rector complained of adverse publicity in the press and stated that he reserved the right to revoke his permission to occupy at any time if he considered that the Seminary by words or actions made it 'impossible for the two institutions to live together in harmony.'

"The Seminary Council met on Wednesday, February 12. After deliberations lasting 10 hours the Council decided to inform the Minister of Bantu Affairs by telex that (because of the Rector's provocative action) the Seminary 'was left with no option but to move under protest and seek refuge in a place totally unprepared. The Seminary must retain use of all buildings until date of moving, which is March 10 or nearest possible date thereafter.' On Friday, February 14, the Seminary learnt that the Rector, after consultation with the Minister, acceded to this request.

"It is impossible in this brief letter to give all the reasons which led the Council to its decision. The staff and two student representatives were invited to attend most of the meeting because Council was concerned to come to a common mind and to preserve the unity of the Seminary. Council's decision was unanimous and had the full support of all others present at the meeting. It was clear that every means of the Seminary's staying at Alice had been tried and Council considered it vital to maintain the Seminary community in existence. The Seminary must courageously take its future into its own hands and go on trek, for the real defeat of the Government's destructive act lies in the continuation of the Seminary.

"Because it is important that all our Church members should know the facts, Council issued a press statement immediately after the meeting. The Seminary is leaving Alice because 'the Rector's action has made connivance at Alice impossible. It was obviously the desire of the Rector to make the Seminary authorities the scapegoat for a situation of his own creating, and this they refused to be. It was also considered impossible to vacate two colleges and make the necessary adjustments within a week'.

"On Saturday, February 15, term started as planned with 101 students in residence. […] few more are expected. For t[…] first two weeks we are carryi[…] on as normal while sim[…]taneously packing and planni[…] In Umtata, the capital of t[…] Transkei, 240 kilometres ([…] miles) away, great efforts a[…] being made to prepare a te[…]porary home for us at St Bed[…] Anglican Theological Colle[…] and at the Methodist Lay Tra[…]ing Centre, which is three ki[…]metres (two miles) away […] Ncambedlana. It is hoped […] house all the students, but mo[…] of the teaching staff will ha[…] to live in tents or carava[…] Classes will be held in near[…] churches and halls; the dini[…] room for all of us will be […] marquee.

"The removal vans will bee[…] work on 10th March and t[…] following day the students a[…] staff will travel to Umtata.

"It is hoped that we c[…] build prefabs before winter b[…] this looks like costing in t[…] region of R150,000 (abo[…] £83,000). So far no compens[…]tion has been paid.

"We are so thankful th[…] through the generosity of th[…] two institutions at Umtata w[…] can go on with our work o[…] training ministers. But our mov[…] to Umtata is only a temporar[…] measure.

"As soon as the Seminary i[…] adequately housed there it wil[…] be necessary to search for […] permanent site and seek the necessary permits from the Government for our staff and students. We shall need to build as soon as possible, and we hope that the compensation will be sufficient for this purpose. No doubt our experience of being jumbled up together at Umtata will have its funny moments as well as its problems and out of it all we hope a Seminary will be born which will be even better than the one at Alice.

"In spite of the hard knocks we have received over the pas[…] few months we are cheerful. We look to Christ our Saviour to protect us in the difficult days which lie ahead, thankful to know we are supported by so many friends in South Africa and in other countries. Please strengthen us through your prayers."





# The Times Diary

## An anti-climactic sort of life

To fulfil your life ambition in your 20s, and to have nothing else you specially want to achieve is, I would imagine, an unnerving and eventually a destructive experience. It happened to Sandy Wilson, though, and he assured me that it was neither of those. Certainly he showed no such symptoms when we lunched together in Soho, as he enjoyed a quick break from watching over rehearsals for the radio version of his musical *Valmouth*, which is to be broadcast on April 28.

Coincidentally, that is the day on which his book, *I Could Be Happy*, is to be published. The book's original concept was as a description of his adventures with *The Boy Friend*, the musical with which he achieved his ambition for West End success in 1954. But as he wrote, it developed into a kind of autobiography, though an incomplete one which ends—rather appropriately—soon after that West End success and its transfer to Broadway.

He was 29 when *The Boy Friend* opened in the West End, and since then his career has been something of an anti-climax. "I can't conceive of doing anything which could be more successful", he said. "For a year or so afterwards I felt that my life was thoroughly fulfilled. I might just as well retire or die or something."

There was *Valmouth* in 1959, which ran for only a few months, though many—and I am among them—think it one of the best British musicals. Five years later came *Divorce Me Darling*, which did not do well, and five years after that he wrote the music for *As Dorothy Parker Once Said*.

That is hardly an impressive tally for someone of such apparent promise, and Wilson's own description of what he has been doing since would seem almost pathetic, were it not that he clearly does not see it as such.

"I've written three shows that didn't get put on", he said. "People ask you to do things and they change their mind.

"I wrote a musical of a book by Anne Scott James, and I spent a long time doing a musical version of *Goodbye to Berlin*, until it turned out that the man I did it for didn't have the rights."

"It's hell doing musicals in this country. You just can't get them on. But I've been quite a bit involved in revivals of *The Boy Friend*. I love directing but I don't get a chance to direct anything except *The Boy Friend*.

"A revival of *Valmouth* has been on the cards for five years, but somehow or other it never jells. People are frightened by the cost—we'd have to do it at least as lavishly as last time—and they're worried because it flopped in New York.

Wilson used to write a bit for revues, but time has overtaken him there, too. "There aren't any revues nowadays. *Beyond the Fringe* happened and then TV took over. I do a little one-man show called *Sandy Wilson Thanks the Ladies*—that's there if anyone wants to hear it. And I did the songs for Danny La Rue in *Charley's Aunt* on television but really Danny's too beautiful to be Charley's aunt."

Over coffee I asked him: "What are you going to do next?" He took a sip and mused: "Yes, everyone asks me that." What he did next was to rush back to the BBC: back to *Valmouth*: back to reviving another little triumph from his past.

*An advertisement in* Time *magazine for Volvo cars provides a clue as to why Arthur Scargill, the leader of the Yorkshire miners, has chosen one. It shows a picture of a car with a crumpled front with the caption: "This Volvo has been through a head on collision into a concrete barrier at 65 mph." It is not too fanciful to compare this with the clash between Scargill's men and the Heath Administration last year. It is clear from the picture that the driver survived unscathed, though it is not recorded what became of the concrete barrier.*

### Earnest

The invitation to yesterday's press show for a festival of Australian films to be held in London later this month said "Aussie Booze at the Preview Cinema—Come and see what Australia's young film makers have done with all that subsidy". Aussie Booze was not, as some supposed, the name of the film, but a reference to the fact that the organizers were serving Swan's lager and would have served Hardy's Private Bin Australian claret, too, if they had remembered to bring a cork-screw.

Hopes of raucous philistinism were cruelly disappointed. After a mildly satirical cartoon called *Australian History*—whose best line was that the modern Australian had "looked at the quality of television and perceived that it was better than the quality of life"—there were two very earnest films. The first was a diagrammatic essay on Women's Liberation, and the second a pious study of the culture shock following the white man's intrusion in New Guinea.

The Australians said the BBC ought to buy the *New Guinea* film (try to stop them) and explained that their festival screenings would be broadly grouped into women's films, personal statements and abstract films, and documentaries. Some of the personal statements, they said, were intentionally funny, but there were not enough to justify a category for the bawdy humour which has been the mainstream of Australian cinema hitherto.

### Punch-drunk

Budget Day was an unfortunate choice for the launching of Hermione Hobhouse's *A History of Regent Street*, which helps celebrate the 150th anniversary of Nash's curved London thoroughfare. For most of the street's traders sell luxury goods which, if the speculation was to be believed, would fall victim to the swingeing fiscal assault of the Chancellor.

But Patricia Hayward-Ellen, executive director of the Regent Street Association, was sanguine enough. "We're punch-drunk," she said. "I don't think there's any more they can do to us after the last two years. And anyway we don't just sell luxury goods. You can still get a 3p birthday card here."

The party was held in Hedges and Butler's wine cellar, where the Prince Regent is said to have once played the French horn, for no very clear reason. I thought I would have to fight my way through hordes of prudent oenophiles beating the budget—as they were queueing to do in neighbouring Soho.

But Hedges and Butler's sales director said that the firm was a good deal too classy for that kind of thing, its customers too level-headed.

Sir John Summerson, author of a biography of Nash, caused some concern by casting doubt on the authenticity of the anniversary. He said it was probably not possible to assign an exact date to the completion of the street. But we managed to laugh that off, and returned to panic swilling of the last of the pre-Budget champagne.

### Top posts

Save the Children Fund hopes to raise £12,000 in two stamp auctions to be held in London at the end of the month. Donations have come from 78 Heads of State, among them the Queen, Prince Rainier, King Hussein, Marshal Tito, General Franco and the Pope. The Queen, who is patron of the fund, has given a bound copy of the reference work to the Royal stamp collection.

Some of the stamps are signed by the Heads of State. The King of Tonga, for instance, has signed two albums, including, among other wonders, three heart-shaped stamps embossed on gold foil, printed in memory of Queen Salote.

The United States is not among the contributing nations. Letters were sent by Save the Children to President Nixon and then President Ford, but there was no reaction. Both had other matters to worry about.

### Word hunt

What some people would like to read in *The Times* are more sentences like: "Lor-lummy", said the lucky dog, "he must think he's Lord High Muck, for the love of Mike!" or "What have I got to lose?", she asked, examining a low-level toilet suite through her lorgnette.

The readers for the Oxford English Dictionary are workin[…] on the supplement on ne[…] words starting with the letter H to P, which should be read[…] next year. They have ha[…] galley proofs up to "lum[…]nants". The editor says h[…] faces a boring battle with th[…] ubiquitous prefixes, "micro-", "mid-", "milli-", "mini-" an[…] "multi-". He can look forward though, to Miss as in Mi[…] England (used since 1919 i[…] America) and to deciding wha[…] to do about Ms. (*The Time[…]* discourages it, save in excep[…]tional cases like that one).

Marghanita Laski ("one o[…] our most zealous and produ[…]tive readers", say OUP) lea[…] the hunt through our pages an[…] elsewhere for the phrases wi[…] initial "I" in my openi[…] sentences. "A good entry", she says, "gives the earlie[…] possible example of the use o[…] a word, and also one as up [to] date as possible".

She is very dissatisfie[…] therefore, with lorgnette. […] the moment the OED's earlie[…] reference is 1902, and the late[…] 1903. "My old Army and Na[…] catalogues will probably so[…] that one out though", says Mi[…] Laski. "They are the mo[…] useful things in the world".

Other things she is looki[…] for are authoritative uses o[…] lox (Jewish smoked salmo[…]), *loup de mer* (French catfis[…]) and *loup-garou* (werewol[…]). "The great thing about th[…] English language", she sa[…] "is that it has always be[…] everybody else's garbage bi[…] which is what makes it so ve[…] interesting".

*A reader alleges that the Briti[…] Library have placed the Libra[…] of Congress Catalogue in t[…] "Religion" section. Holy wr[…] perhaps, for the new faith information retrieval.*

PH[…]

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# TEP IN THE RIGHT DIRECTION

principle of Mr Healey's jet is both simple and d. It is that the country go at least some way back aying for what the Govern- spends. Mr Healey is still eting for an extremely large it both this year and next But instead of allowing the it to increase in a com- ly uncontrolled way, he has major tax increases and antial future cuts in govern- expenditure in order to it somewhat under control. he Chancellor had not taken difficult decisions the wing requirement would gone over £10,000m. He is ing it by over £1,000m in 76 and by about £3,000m in 77. Had he not done so *as he made clear to the* of Commons, there would been a considerable risk t would no longer have been le to meet this borrowing ement out of the funds ible. Even as it is, the wing requirement remains yingly large and is one of *ry serious risks that Britain* ning.

ere is no doubt that Mr y is right, though he may ave gone far enough. Any evere Budget than the one as introduced would cer- have been inadequate. Yet ecisions do show great poli- courage and are likely to ontroversial in his own . This is after all a severe et at a time when unem- ent, though not high nternational standards, is *ly rising and is expected to* onsiderably farther. Before ion took its present grip, conventional wisdom was axes were raised in a boom *educed at a time of reces-* This contracyclical policy, loosely attributed to Lord s, is still widely believed the correct way to run the my. To raise taxes at a of rising unemployment eem to many people to be oning the full employment ple. The truth is that fur- *nflation would now be the* dangerous course, and more dangerous to employment itself.

There are many people in the Labour Party who do not see, or refuse to see, the connexion between increases in wages and *rising unemployment, who do* not recognize that it is possible for individuals or companies to price themselves out of a job, and in particular who do not admit that increases *in the* pay of public servants have to be paid for. There are in fact only three ways in which the Government can pay its own labour bill. The first and best way is by raising sufficient revenue *through taxation to be able to* pay its own wages and salaries out of its people's money. The second and less desirable way is by borrowing the money so that the wages of today are paid for by incurring the interest *charges of tomorrow.* The third and absolutely disastrous way is by creating the money and paying public wages by inflating the currency. Mr Healey has moved some part of this payment back on to current revenue and *it is a move in the right* direction.

There are a number of very *disturbing figures reported in* the Chancellor's Budget Speech. Yet the most alarming is surely *his* statement that "*pay in* central and local government is likely to cost upwards of £3,000m more in 1975-76 than in 1974-75". This forecast is based *mainly on settlements* or proposals which have already been made. This enormous increase alone makes it quite inevitable that taxes should rise. Those who object to paying the higher taxation should object not to the taxes, but to *the expenditures* which make them necessary.

This huge sum does, no doubt, *mainly represent the matching in* central and local government of pay levels already established elsewhere. This is not entirely true, but it can be conceded that it is largely true. Yet when Mr Healey expresses his anxiety about Britain's decline *as an* industrial power, a decline shown both in industrial investment and in the long-term trend of exports, he should give closer consideration to this *insupportable increase in the* burden of government wages *and salaries.*

Supposing that one were to look at Britain's inadequate *economic performance as though* the whole country were one single economic enterprise. The first thing one would notice would be that the load of *nonproductive overheads* was grossly excessive relative to the productive capacity. We have, as very badly run companies are wont to have, an army sized nonproductive staff looking after the platoons which with inadequate *resources are engaged* in actually earning our living. There are far *too many people in offices and* far too few on the ground. When one reaches the point at which in one year the labour cost of being governed rises by more than £50 per head of the population one should regard the ques*tion of the expansion of* bureaucracy as one of the crucial questions of national recovery. At least, however, the Chancellor is pressing the reality on his colleagues by making them come a few inches nearer paying as they go.

Even after this Budget the danger is still on the side of inflation. *The Chancellor's* warning that other countries have stopped wage inflation while we have not is entirely justified. We are now inflating *at a rate 10 per* cent faster at least than Germany or the United States. We *still have a very large* balance of payments deficit. We have a very large need of overseas borrowing. Wages are still running far ahead of prices, *creating a false prosperity.* Even after this tough Budget we shall have a budget deficit unparalleled in peace-time and amazingly large even by the standards of *war finance.* Yet we do have a Chancellor who is facing the *crisis of inflation with firmness* and decision. He deserves equally determined support, because he is going to be under fire from men who do not under*stand the great risks which they* would be asking us to run. This is a good Budget, but it is a good Budget in an intolerable situation.

# NDON'S OWN DEVELOPMENT AREA

ocklands of London are a f problems in themselves, unparalleled opportunity e city region as a whole. jor changes in techniques go handling have largely away the mainspring of its ny it has fallen into a e *comparable* to the of depressed areas in nd and the North. The ents just published by the ands Joint Committee show again that unemployment remains high whatever the ud *downs of the national* market. Unskilled rs, especially those made dant in middle age, find it ally hard to find work. The ge *of skilled* and clerical rs, as well as the poor s and depressing atmo- deter new employers noving in. The Government inducements to industry up factories in develop- areas, *while the docklands,* e rest of London and the east, are subject to the l restraint of the industrial pment certificate.

don's problems are to a erable extent complemen- those of the docks. Until ly the apparently in- le demand for labour in n as a whole has done to compensate for the de- of work in the docks. But London is beginning to some of the less pleasant quences of the steady flight pulation and employment the centre. It is some time since the GLC has been able to observe the successes of the *Location of Offices* Bureau without misgivings.

Nevertheless, the underlying problems of London are still those of congestion. So great a concentration of activity represents a burden on services which can bear a degree of relief, so long as it is not unbalanced or too rapid. The housing problem, in particular, *would be far more* severe if the population were stable. In inner London, the pressure on space is so extreme that new housing can often only be *built where old housing has* been demolished, with little net gain in accommodation. Many of the industries that move away do so because they cannot ex*pand their small, old-fashioned* premises.

Space is the factor that dockland has in abundance—space for housing, for industry and for *recreation. It will not be easy,* however, to reconcile the interests of all those who have claims upon it. As well as being the most spectacular of opportunities for the urban planner and a windfall to housing departments, *it is also a community* under increasing stress. The landscape of the docks is going to change almost out of recognition in the next twenty years, and its *social structure* must be expected to do the same. In the past attempts to reshape city areas on a large scale have done far too much harm to their social fabric.

This aspect of the question was the undoing of the ambitious development study of 1973, commissioned by the GLC and the *government of the day.* It was prepared and presented with too little regard to local opinion, so that its many valuable insights immediately fell into political *disrepute.* There is not the same danger of the Docklands Joint Committee *making* the same error, nor of their taking too supine an attitude towards national influences upon industrial development in the region. The *committee* is made up of representatives of the five boroughs concerned and of the GLC, and it has limited planning powers. Its weakness is likely to be the opposite one of giving too much weight to immediate *local needs.*

Urgent as the requirement for work is, it is essential that the *nature and siting of industrial* development should be controlled by an overall conception of the area's future. The committee is right to pick distinct zones where industry is to be encouraged. The trade mart pro*posed for the Surrey Docks* was probably too great a plum to risk losing, but the advantages of other sites should have been more fully studied, and there is cause to fear that it will cause a distortion of services. As the *future of the docklands begins* to take shape it will become *increasingly important that deve*lopments are fitted to the plan, and not the plan to developments.

# LETTERS TO THE EDITOR

## Referendum issues: imports policy

*From Sir Roy Harrod*

Sir, British membership of the Common Market must be one of the most striking implementations in history of the precept "take from the poor and give to the rich". If we are to have discrimination in our import policy, it should not be in favour of the wealthy countries of Europe, which can perfectly well look after themselves, but in favour of the poor under*developed countries of Asia, Africa* and Latin America.

*I am, etc,*
ROY HARROD,
*The Old Rectory*
Holt Norfolk.
April 12.

*From Mr G. Grant McKenzie*

Sir, A majority vote to stay in the Common Market does not mean corresponding support for the Market as now constituted. Many people who dislike its present form and scope will vote to stay in because they think it is impracticable to withdraw, particularly under conditions of world-wide economic crisis, in which we are up to our collective necks and the Market is a nucleus for essential European cooperation.

The Government has made important gains for the United Kingdom—aided by the referendum proposal—and the Market has also become a bit more realistic under pressure of events in general. But whatever the significance of such advances, the conclusive case for staying in is the impracticability of *coming out. For the time being at* least, we are stuck with the Market for good or ill.

It is all the more important, *therefore, that after the referendum* (assuming a favourable vote) Parlia*ment should investigate fully the* theory and practice of the Market, *and indicate the kind of changes* it would like to see in due course. *This is not a case for confrontation* or renegotiation; but rather a pursuit of objectives as occasion arises—an opportune gradualism. Given the will and ingenuity, the Treaty of Rome is no impassable barrier.

The questions to be considered by Parliament would include the application by Parliament of its full customary procedures and controls to Market proposals, policies and projects and what we do in the Market; rights of veto, non-participation and withdrawal on individual matters; financial responsibility of member countries for their own economic arrangements and developments; administration of the Market by *a full-time joint authority* of political ministers representative of *the member countries, with all other* Market personnel working under its *day-to-day direction and control*; and an advisory assembly representative of the parliaments of the member countries and not directly elected.

The referendum is by no means the be-all and end-all of the Common Market issue.

Yours truly,
G. GRANT McKENZIE,
2 Grosvenor Road,
Caversham,
Reading, Berkshire.
April 14.

*From Mr Charles Landstone*

Sir, I am an octogenarian, and the present attacks on Mr Wedgwood Benn remind me that it has always been the tactics of the Conservative party and Conservative press to single out one opponent as "bogyman".

From 1906 onwards it was Lloyd George, and the full artillery was turned on him. "Limehouse orator", "anarchist", "pro-Boer", "revolutionary", "demagogue", "pettifogging little Welsh solicitor", were only a few of the epithets hurled against him, until, miraculously overnight, he became the saviour of the country as head of the wartime coalition, in 1915.

In later decades much the same cycle of progress from chief devil to saint befell Philip Snowden and Aneurin Bevan. Judging from these examples, Mr Benn can take comfort in the thought that his turn for canonization will undoubtedly take place in the 1980s.

Yours faithfully,
CHARLES LANDSTONE,
15 Springcroft Avenue,
East Finchley, N2.
April 12.

*From Mr D. H. Pantlin*

Sir, Before it is too late, may I make a further appeal through your columns for the Leader of the House of Commons to state clearly why it is impossible, in his opinion, for British residents in Continental EEC countries to vote in the referendum?

My letter published on March 21 and one from the British Chambers of Commerce in France, Holland and Italy on March 29 showed clearly how a British consulate could check that a person is entitled to vote in *the United Kingdom* and that he is a resident of an EEC country.

It is important that justice shall be seen to be done; if difficulties exist they should be identified.

Otherwise it is not too late to alter the draft Bill before Parliament.

Yours faithfully,
D. H. PANTLIN, President,
British Chamber of Commerce for
*Belgium* and Luxembourg,
Brussels.
April 14.

## Powers of student unions

*From Professor H. S. Ferns*

Sir, Discussion of the activities of the National Union of Students and of student unions in particular universities seems always to be based on the assumption that these unions are representative institutions and bargaining agencies like unions affiliated to the Trade Union Congress. In one important particular this is not so. Unlike trade unions, which are financed by their members, student unions are financed almost wholly by the taxpayers.

*In nearly all British universities* students are compelled to belong to student unions and the membership fees are paid out of public funds. The only students who pay their own union fees are foreigners and those who receive no grants or fees from public and university authorities. These last two categories are none the less compelled to belong to the student union in most universities.

A new concept of student freedom is now being discussed. This new concept involves two radical reforms: firstly, the abolition of compulsory membership in student unions or guilds, and secondly, the payment to the student individually of a sum equal to the amount now paid on his or her behalf to student unions.

Participation in the extra-curricular social, political, sporting, artistic and religious life of universities is an important element in higher education, and it costs money. But the money it costs should be completely under the control of the individuals for whose benefit it is provided. Students individually must be free to choose their extra-curricular activities, and have reasonable means of pursuing them.

Students enthusiastic about chess or politics or music or golf should be free to spend their allowances on what interests them, and not what others think they ought to be interested in. Chess enthusiasts ought to have the means of renting a room in a public house or a university building where they can play chess *and relax in surroundings chosen by* themselves and financed by themselves.

Similarly with political enthu*siasts; let them do their own thing* in their own way at their own *expense. Thus will be ended the* struggles of student politicians to get *their* hands on money and power. As it is now the exploitation of students as *individuals* by student politicians corrupts, disturbs and limits the cultural, intellectual and social life of the student community.

Proposals to disestablish student unions and restore freedom to the student as an individual are met with blank, conservative incomprehension by Vice-Chancellors and university administrators. What will happen, they ask, to the large investments of capital in student union buildings? How will they be financed? What will be done with them if subsidies from the taxpayers cease?

But these university authorities never seem to ask what a student union building is in terms of use. A visit to any one of *them* any night during term time will suggest that they are public houses, and an inspection of their books suggests the *same thing. Their cash flows derive* in the main from selling food and *drink. Where they differ from pub*lic houses is in the service they *provide free or at non-economic* rents to the users of rooms, halls, etc.

Disestablished the unions, as *clubs, will be obliged to rent* accommodation at economic rates to political groups, *disco organizers,* drama societies, etc, and the members of *the group, renting accommodation* will be able to pay for what they use and on what they choose for themselves.

The important core fact is that the disestablishment of the student unions will place in the hands of each student the means of choosing and supporting his or her own interests, and not have the means of doing so reduced, stereotyped and controlled by political groups who *see in the control of union funds* the means of cultivating their enthusiasms at *the expense* of the quite legitimate and humane enthusiasms of the majority, too often condemned unjustly as apathetic.

Yours, etc,
H. S. FERNS,
Department of Political Science,
University of Birmingham,
PO Box 363, Birmingham.
April 14.

*From the President of the National Union of Students*

Sir, If your leader writer (April 14) had *taken* the trouble to read the reports in your own columns of the NUS conference he describes so disparagingly he would know *that the issues that students* considered to be the highest priority *for debate were student housing,* student grants, government policy on higher education, the EEC and the finance of student unions, in *that order. If he had taken* the trouble to attend himself he would *have heard for himself that on all* these issues, and more besides, rea*son and rhetoric remain in fair* balance. The assertion that only *those issues that fit easily "into* the arid stereotypes of the extreme *left" were discussed simply does* not stand up to the facts.

*The inaccuracy of your tenden*tious comments may be seen by *examining the debates that actually* took place. That on housing was *concerned with two main issues:* a discussion of how students may *best take advantage of the changed* nature of housing associations fol*lowing the Housing Act, 1974, and* the Government proposal for a *registration scheme for student* dwellings.

*On this latter point The Times* (hardly noted for its purveyance of unreasoned leftist rhetoric) has given prominence to the union's arguments which, I submit, are better considered and considerably more sophisticated than the Government's own ill-thought-out proposition. On the difficult question of the cuts in the colleges of education I made it clear in my opening remarks to the conference that our policies had to take proper account of the falling birth rate. It is in our conclusions not in our premises that we differ from Mr Prentice in this matter.

To *conclude* that the union is losing its influence in official circles *is total nonsense.* Over the last two years the NUS involvement in *deliberations over student grants* has increased dramatically. In the *1971 review the NUS was one of* several bodies formally consulted *by Government. In 1974 the equiv*alent working parties were made up *of Government and NUS representa*tives alone. This increased and more detailed involvement, which has continued in the current year, is hardly the product of a "retreat into irrelevance", nor may it be characterized as a "sad and unnecessary degeneration in the influence of the union".

Finally, may I say that there is a rather sad but futile nostalgia about your reference to the previous leadership of Jack Straw and Digby Jacks. When Digby Jacks was president there were those who harked back to the "responsible" leadership of Jack Straw and Trevor Fisk. When Jack Straw was *president* the nostalgists referred in similar terms to Trevor Fisk and Geoffrey Martin. When, in turn, my successor Charles Clarke is similarly attacked, may I look forward to a similar sanctification when the "responsible" leadership of Digby Jacks and John Randall is *referred* to? Or will you then base your *comments on the facts, rather than* on the highly selective and sensa*tional reporting of the less reput*able inhabitants of Fleet Street?

*Yours faithfully,*
JOHN RANDALL, President,
The National Union of Students,
3 Endsleigh Street, WC1.
April 15.

## Taxing works of art

*From Mr Hugh Leggatt*

Sir, Mrs Geraldine Norman's thorough analysis of the implications of including works of art *in a wealth tax* (article, April 15) does not discuss the fundamental *difficulties of valuations by self*-assessment as proposed by the Gov*ernment and supported by the* Inland Revenue.

*The problem of valuation is* not overcome by the suggestion in the *Green Paper for the deferment,* and the accumulation of the tax, the *scathing criticism* of which by Professor Sandford has already been pointed out *in your columns* (April 7) by the President of the British *Antique Dealers' Association.*

In this connexion it is of interest that *a classic example* in the past of wild variations in the valuation of a painting is about to have a sequel. In 1965 I bought a picture by Stubbs at public auction. The owner's valuation was £80, and he accordingly fixed the reserve price *at that figure;* but *on the morning* of the sale the auctioneers advised him to *increase* this to £5,000. In the course of the actual bidding leading London *dealers dropped* out at £12,000, £18,000 and £23,000 before the picture was *sold to me* for £24,000. Thus four professional *dealers* and *one fine art auctioneer* differed substantially in their *valuations on the very same day.* I may add that I sold it at a higher *figure a few months afterwards.*

Now, ten years later, the picture *itself is billed* to reappear for sale at Sotheby's on April 23 as Lot 138. *It would be revealing* to obtain a conspectus of estimated valuations *before sale, not only* from the auctioneers but also from fine art *dealers* and private collectors. And, finally, would the Inland Revenue, *which is to be saddled* with this aspect of the proposed tax, chance its arm just for once? Of course the difficulty is that there are more chances than not that it would prove wrong.

Yours faithfully,
HUGH LEGGATT,
Leggatt Brothers,
*30 St James's Street, SW1.*
April 15.

## Taxation and public conscience

*From Mr R. J. F. Howard*

Sir, The letter in your issue of April 15 from Jeremy Cripps, suggesting that a conscientious objection to paying taxes may now be beginning to emerge, seems not to recognize that many people in all walks of life are already accepting cash for services rendered either as part of their normal employment or for additional part-time work and are so avoiding tax in all its forms. Indeed, I have increasingly heard references to "the cash sub-economy", and feel that such tax avoidance is now being regarded as acceptable over wide areas of the populace.

At current levels of taxation, I have the feeling that we are fast approaching, if not already beyond, the point of diminishing returns to the economy as a whole. Nowhere have I seen it pointed out that while the Government and employers speak of percentage increases in gross pay, the recipients now think of any increase only in terms of the additional spendable take home pay after income tax.

For many of those being left behind in the present spate of 30 per cent increases, the only recourse will be to join the "cash sub-economy" and so further accelerate the change in morals to which Jeremy Cripps refers.

Yours faithfully,
R. J. F. HOWARD,
49 Beaumont Street, W1.
April 15.

## Press freedom

*From Mr John Grant, Labour MP for Islington, Central*

Sir, The persistent misrepresentation of the Labour Party document "The People and the Media" by those who should, and presumably do, know better, cannot be allowed to continue without reply. The myth that it constitutes an attack on genuine press freedom was again perpetuated in two reports in your columns today (April 15), in which the Editor of *The Sunday Times* and the Chairman of the Newspaper Society's Advertising Committee make their contributions to the debate.

*The document* was prepared by a working party of people with media experience which concluded its meetings under my chairmanship. *The preamble makes it crystal* clear that it is a discussion *document. It commits neither the party* nor the individuals who sign it, although they were in broad agreement with its general approach and felt it could usefully stimulate much further thought about this important subject. It is, of course, in no sense Government policy which is to await the findings of the Royal Commission on the Press and the Annan Broadcasting Committee which were set up after the working party had completed most of its work.

Certainly, the late Mr Justice Finer, former Chairman of the Royal Commission on the Press, was keenly interested in the document at an early stage of his inquiries and discussed it with me informally. No doubt the Commission is now considering it fully along with much other advice.

*The document* undoubtedly contains a number of arguable propo*sitions but only those who consider* that newspaper proprietors should, in effect, have an utterly unchallenged right to "fix the agenda *for society*" (as you report *The Sunday Times* editor as having *so delicately put it) could find in it* a threat to what they choose to call press freedom.

The document is certainly far more concerned with the rights of the public to the widest range of opinion and comment than those distinguished editors who claim this interest in their letter, which also appears today in your columns. Not all of them could be said to reflect that concern through the newspapers they edit.

Could it be that any stick will do with which to beat the Government just now providing it helps to maintain the campaign against the Trade Union and Labour Relations (Amendment) Bill?

Yours faithfully,
JOHN GRANT,
House of Commons.
April 15.

## Closing of St Giles

*From Mr Henry Clother*

Sir, In his article on the closure of the St Giles School of Languages (April 9) Bernard Levin said that the founder, Mr Paul Lindsay, was surprised that the teachers had not chosen to join the National Union of Teachers or one of the other teachers' organizations. I would like to make it clear that the National Union of Teachers is only *open to qualified teachers as defined* by the Department of Education and Science, and therefore the teachers at St Giles, who are not qualified to teach in state schools, would not qualify for membership of the NUT.

Yours faithfully,
HENRY CLOTHER,
Senior Official,
National Union of Teachers,
Hamilton House,
Mabledon Place, WC1.
April 11.

## Photographed in Russia

*From Mrs Jean Gaffin*

Sir, I left Leningrad yesterday (April 13) after a short holiday. The customs men took my films away from me, and kindly delayed the aeroplane until they had been developed. (Unfortunately, they were colour films and the negatives are black and white.)

This is an admirable free service, which Intourist should advertise more widely. I hope that the cost of the service does not fall upon my Russian friends who appeared in some of the photographs.

Yours sincerely,
JEAN GAFFIN,
10 Robin Hood Lane,
Mitcham, Surrey.
April 14.

## ic and private travel

*Mr N. C. Pearson*

our correspondent, Mr Robert (April 7), disposes convinc- of a number of traffic myths, ling the theory that London rosper without ease of travel lic and private—for *all* its s. Unfortunately these myths ncouraged by statistical and onal pleas "*for realism*" such se of Professor Wiggins (April ne of which cannot be allowed unanswered.

ealistic road pricing and cost *it analysis*" is surely carried lready by the Department of Environment in their future tment surveys. What is an t impossible task is to strike r balance between the multi- y of values and interests in- d. But at least one can be ed the authorities are trying their homework.

Sir Colin Buchanan (March as failed to do "sociological on the overall decline in the nal mobility of the greater of the population" most of us plead guilty. If there is less lity, one would need a lot of asion that this is due to torization of the minority" or the use of the car is largely nsible for the closure of 50,000 l shops. Common sense surely ates that the principal causes

The decline in public transport, to which Professor Wiggins refers. This, I suggest, is due not *to the existence of the motor car,* but to the high cost and *inflexibility of public transport, ie, its inability* to meet the infinitely varying demand pattern of modern society. What public transport can and does do effectively and economically, is the handling of bulk, standardized regular movement (eg commuter traffic). The active minority of the population refuse to be immobil*ized.* They must and will use the motor vehicle, where speed, flexibility or *convenience cannot other*wise be provided.

(b) If small businesses are disappearing, it is because of the heavy burden of rents, rates and taxation, coupled with shrinking profit margins, and not the "motorization of *the minority*".

(c) "Catchment areas of schools are on their way to *doubling*". So is the size of schools. Rents and rates are more than doubling. People are moving out of the cities. These are long term social trends for which the motor car is not responsible.

The idea of an all pervasive, "integrated" public transport sys*tem* (whatever that may mean) has been and will remain quite visionary. At its best and most economic it meets the demand for standard*ized, regular movement* (eg, commuter traffic). It does not and can*not provide for the variation of* specialized movement required every day, for business, duty or pleasure, by day or night, by *tens* of thousands of people.

*Space does not permit discussion* of the "Buchanan type traffic schemes". If their costs are high, they are not more than comparable with the operating losses of London Transport and British Rail. A country that can afford to subsidize these losses is not so poor that it cannot afford a proper road system. And as an ordinary motorist I decline to accept a feeling of guilt, *for demanding such a system.* Seventy-five years ago the motor *age was ushered in by men on foot,* carrying a red flag in front of each vehicle. It seems their counterparts today still exist among those who, by temperament or otherwise, refuse to come to terms with the motor car.

*Yours faithfully,*
NORMAN PEARSON,
61 *Albert Hall Mansions, SW7.*
April 7.

## Price of straw

*From Mr S. V. Tredinnick*

Sir, Yesterday barley was *quoted* at £48 per ton and barley straw at £52 per ton. (*BBC Farming To-day* April 8).

Yours &c,
S. V. TREDINNICK,
Naldretts Court,
Wisborough Green,
West Sussex.
April 9.

## Ceasefire in Ulster

*From Mr R. J. Silburn*

Sir, While Lieutenant-General King must expect to be rebuked for criticizing the Government's policy *in Ulster, he deserves* some sympathy.

*There must be many people like* myself who see the "ceasefire" and *the release of detainees* as a form of protection racket in which the terrorists appear to be the beneficiaries. After all, in the end we will have to destroy the IRA and its imitators. Why are we making it so difficult for ourselves?

Yours sincerely,
R. J. SILBURN,
10 Woodcote Hurst,
Epsom,
Surrey.

## Help for the homeless

*From Mr Richard Edmonds*

*Sir, By refusing to accommodate* homeless families who have not *lived in the area for at least* nine months, and by stating that homeless families unable to prove nine months' residence should be given a travel warrant back to their last long-stay area, the Salford City Council has brought into the full glare of public knowledge the present conflict surrounding the grow*ing menace* of homelessness.

Homelessness can and must be prevented, and can and must be provided for. The number of homeless in local authority accommodation has more than doubled in 10 years, reaching 28,866 in Spring 1974. The present figure is no doubt well above that mark.

The Housing Centre Trust is giving close consideration to this problem, and in assessing whether homelessness is a social service or a housing problem we firmly believe it to be the latter. Most of the permanent solutions for each person or family involved require provision of housing or housing advice. For this reason we advocate the early declaration by Government of a date by which housing departments must assume responsibility *for housing the homeless.*

It should be made clear that the social service departments would not be "handing over" all connexions with homeless families, as *their help and expertise* are essential in investigation, counselling, and *supportive roles.*

We strongly advocate the establishment of coordinating committees in every county to provide a regular meeting of county social *service* and district housing staff. We hope the next Government circular on homelessness *will lay down* demarcation lines for the guidance *of the two departments. The vital* point is that there must be one *identifiable agency* to whom the homeless or imminently homeless can turn.

Yours faithfully,
RICHARD EDMONDS.
Chairman, Housing Centre Trust,
62 Chandos Place, WC2.

# COURT CIRCULAR

**WINDSOR CASTLE**
April 15: The Duke of Edinburgh, as President, this morning presided at the Annual General Meeting of the Central Council of Physical Recreation at 70 Brompton Road and was later entertained at luncheon by the Executive Committee.

Major Henry Hugh Smith was in attendance.

His Royal Highness, as a Life Member, this evening attended the Variety Club International Heart Awards Dinner at Grosvenor House.

Lord Rupert Nevill was in attendance.

**CLARENCE HOUSE**
April 15: Ruth, Lady Fermoy has succeeded the Lady Elizabeth Basset as Lady-in-Waiting to Queen Elizabeth The Queen Mother.

Queen Margrethe II of Denmark celebrates her birthday today.

The Dean of St Paul's gave an address at the annual service of the Guild of Freemen of the City of London in St Paul's Cathedral yesterday.

A service in memory of John Waynflete Carter will be held on Monday, May 5, in Eton College Chapel at 2.15 pm.

## Marriages

**Mr J. E. Simmonds and Lady Caroline Knox**
The marriage took place yesterday at St Mary's Parish Church, Chesham, Buckinghamshire, of Mr John Edward Simmonds, son of Mr J. C. Simmonds and of Mrs J. D. Simmonds, and Lady Caroline Knox, daughter of the Earl and Countess of Ranfurly. The Rev Robin Smith officiated.

The bride was given in marriage by her father, and Captain P. J. B. Drury-Lowe was best man.

A reception was held at Madame Tussauds.

**Mr A. Henville Simonds and Miss C. A. H. Blake**
The marriage took place on Saturday, April 12, at Yetholm Parish Church between Mr Adam Henville Simonds, son of Dr W. Henville Simonds, of South Lodge, 203 Dorchester Road, Weymouth, and the late Mrs Simonds, and Miss Honey Blake, daughter of Mrs John Grey, of Oxendean Burn, Cornhill on Tweed, Northumberland, and the late Sir Edward Blake. The Rev Joseph Brown officiated.

The bride was given away by her brother, Sir Michael Blake, and was attended by Miss Carol Blake, Miss Meriel Connell, Miss Alison Griffiths and Miss Vanessa Fenton. Mr Jonathon Simonds was best man.

**Mr E. J. H. Cameron and Miss C. A. Ripley**
The marriage took place on Saturday, April 5, in the Chapel of St Cross, Winchester, of Mr Ewen James Hanning Cameron, elder son of Major and Mrs Allan Cameron, of Allangrange, Munlochy, Ross and Cromarty, and Miss Caroline Anne Ripley, only daughter of the late Mr Derek Ripley and Mrs Ripley, of Hurst Farm, Privett, Hampshire. Canon K. W. H. Felstead, Master of St Cross Hospital, officiated.

The bride, who was given in marriage by her brother, Mr Nicholas Ripley, was attended by Jane Hardman, Camilla Stephens, Joshua Chetwode and Farquhar Ogilvie-Laing. Mr Charles Clasen was best man.

A reception was held at Hurst Farm.

## Birthdays today

Lord Aberconway, 62; Mr Kingsley Amis, 53; Captain Sir Cecil Boyd-Rochfort, 88; Sir Charles Chaplin, 86; Sir Peter Daubeny, 54; Lieutenant-General Sir John Glubb, 78; Sir Laurence Grafftey-Smith, 83; Sir Albert Mumford, 72; Lord Platt, 75; Sir Edward Salisbury, 89; Miss Constance Shacklock, 62; Sir Edmund Stockdale, 72; Mr Peter Ustinov, 54; Sir Douglas Waring, 71.

## Latest wills

Latest wills include (net, before duty paid; further duty may be payable on some estates):

Van Leersum, Mr Abraham Gerardus, of West Wickham, Kent, company director (duty paid, £18,316) .. .. .. £18,316

Lomas-Walker, Lady, of Harrogate, widow of Sir Bernard Lomas-Walker, solicitor (duty paid, £24,133) .. .. £97,902

## Aid for artists

The Yorkshire Arts Association is to award 12 bursaries to help promising artists working in the area. The maximum award to any one artist is unlikely to exceed £250.

## Forthcoming marriages

**Mr A. Hutchison and Miss S. A. Hawkins**
The engagement is announced between Alan, son of the late Mr James Dykes Hutchison and Mrs Charles Cotsworth, of Blackmoor, Hampshire, and Sarah Ann Babington, daughter of Sir Michael and Lady Hawkins, of Weston Patrick, near Basingstoke.

**Mr G. A. Harmsworth and Mrs S. de Young Miller Welch**
The engagement is announced between Guy, younger son of Mr A. J. Harmsworth, of Sway, Hampshire, and Mrs J. E. Harmsworth, of Keyhaven, Hampshire, and Stevie, daughter of Mr C. Miller, of Berkley, California, and Mrs M. Baker Miller, of London.

**Mr R. D. James and Miss J. A. Rankin**
The engagement is announced between Daniel, youngest son of Mr and Mrs R. G. James, of Eastington House, Stonehouse, Gloucestershire, and Jennifer, twin daughter of Mr and Mrs J. M. Rankin, of Parsonage House, Stoney Stratton, Evercreech, Somerset.

**Mr B. C. Medcalf and Miss A. M. Taylor**
The engagement is announced between Brian Charles, elder son of the Rev J. E. and Mrs Medcalf, of Holy Trinity Vicarage, Heath Town, Wolverhampton, and Aleen Margaret, second daughter of Mr and Mrs J. B. Taylor, of Turleigh Combe, Bradford-on-Avon, Wiltshire.

**Major M. J. Ménage and Miss G. P. Bagshawe**
The engagement is announced between Major Michael John Ménage, MBE, The Royal Anglian Regiment, only son of the late Lieutenant-Colonel Ronald Ménage, and Mrs Ruth Ménage, of Clatford, Andover, Hampshire, and Gill Priscilla, only daughter of Major and Mrs T. Bagshawe, of Oakes Park, Norton, Sheffield.

**Mr J. Murray and Miss J. Johnstone**
The engagement is announced between John, only son of Lieutenant-Colonel A. J. Murray, JP, and the late Mrs Murray, of Churchhill Court, Churchill, Somerset, and Jan, younger daughter of Mr Adam Johnstone, of Temple Wood, Capel, Surrey, and of the late Mrs Johnstone.

**Mr W. P. Nunneley and Miss F. M. Grant**
The engagement is announced between William, son of the late Major D. C. W. Nunneley and Mrs W. Barrington-Browne, of Lillyhorn Farm, Bournes Green, near Stroud, Gloucestershire, and Fiona Mary, youngest daughter of Mr and Mrs G. F. B. Grant, of Church House, Washington, Pulborough, Sussex.

**Dr D. A. Smith and Miss K. B. Heath**
The engagement is announced between David, son of Mr and Mrs J. E. Smith, of Totnes, Devon, and Kirsty, daughter of Mr and Mrs W. A. Heath, of St Andrews, Fife.

**Mr T. Tayler and Miss J. B. E. Baumer**
The engagement is announced between Lieutenant Timothy Tayler, RAOC, elder son of Mr and Mrs H. F. Tayler, of Wroxall, Isle of Wight, and Jill Barbara Elizabeth, elder daughter of Mr and Mrs C. W. Baumer, of Mickleham, Surrey.

**Mr C. J. Thompson and Señorita H. Pasquel**
The engagement is announced between Christopher, only son of Mr and Mrs B. H. Thompson, of Kingswood, Surrey, and Hortensia, daughter of Sr and Sra Gonzalo Pasquel Z, of Quito, Ecuador.

## Today's engagements

Princess Margaret attends jubilee celebrations of the St Pancras Housing Association, Camden, 8.15.

British Library exhibition: Charles Lamb, British Museum, 10-5.

Dolls: A study of their history and development, 1750-1970, Bethnal Green Museum, Cambridge Heath Road, 10-6.

Royal Archaeological Institute Lecture: Rescue Archaeology in Kent, 1974, by Brian Philp, Society of Antiquaries, Burlington House, Piccadilly, 5.

Organ recital by Derrick Cantrell, Liverpool Metropolitan Cathedral, 7.30.

## Royal Ascot

The list for Royal Ascot Enclosure vouchers will close on April 30. Those wishing to attend must apply before that date to Her Majesty's Representative, Ascot Office, St James's Palace, London, SW1. Applicants should apply only for members of their families, stating their full names and their ages if they are of 17-25 years; children under 17 years are not admitted. Those applying for the first time will require to be sponsored by someone already on the Royal Enclosure List. Visitors from overseas should apply to their Ambassador or High Commissioner. In the enclosure ladies will wear formal day dress with hats, and gentlemen morning dress or Service dress.


Modigliani's "Fillette sur une chaise" (left) and the Degas "Après le bain", which were sold at Christie's yesterday.

# Degas takes top price of £141,750

By Geraldine Norman
Sale Room Correspondent

Somerville and Simpson Ltd paid the top price at Christie's spring sale of Impressionist and modern paintings yesterday, £141,750 for a Degas pastel, "Après le bain", after Van Gogh's "Patience Escalier" had been withdrawn.

The buyers are a new firm, partners who used to work for Colnaghi's.

The Van Gogh had been in the Chester Beatty collection and was apparently sent for sale by one of the family. Informed views as to its value I collected yesterday ranged from £750,000 to £1.5m. It was withdrawn three weeks ago after Norton Simon, the American collector, had flown to London to see it. It is believed to have been bought before the sale by a consortium of dealers.

Prices in the sale were down on last year but less than 30 per cent of paintings were unsold.

The Piccadilly Gallery paid £126,000 (estimate £100,000 plus) for a fine Modigliani portrait, "Fillette sur une chaise", of 1918, on behalf of a foreign collector.

The B. E. Bensinger collection from Chicago made up roughly half the sale, including these two works. Several of the paintings had already been offered to dealers, which might have been expected to sabotage prices, but a Renoir flower piece of 1878 was sold to A. Tooth at £84,000 (estimate £70,000 to £100,000) and a fine Daumier drawing, "Les Deux Confrères" went to S. Hahn of New York at £37,800 (estimate £20,000 to £30,000).

The biggest failures in this group were two important Monet landscapes; "Le Bassin d'Argenteuil", unsold at £84,000, and "Jardin à Vetheuil", unsold at £105,000. A Cezanne landscape of "Montagne Sainte-Victoire" was unsold at £22,050.

At a more modest level, a brilliant Constantin Guys drawing, "Le roi Othon des Hellènes et sa Reine à Athènes" made £2,730 (estimate £1,000 to £2,000) to El Zenny. Guys never signed his drawings, and there are many fakes. This one is inscribed with many details of the royal scene.

Other big prices included a stone head by Modigliani, which went for £44,100 (estimate £30,000 to £45,000) to Klaus Perls, and a Soutine "Maison derrière les Arbres", which went to Kaessens from Germany at £35,700 (estimate £30,000 to £45,000).

Sotheby's Belgravia yesterday held a sale of good English prints. Among the rarities were a polyautograph by Fuseli, "Evening thou bringest all", at £500 (estimate £500 to £1,000) and a pageant engraving by Blake, "Chaucer's Canterbury Pilgrims", at £280 (estimate £300 to £400).

In Bond Street, a sale of books of topographical interest included a series of 36 letters written by a pioneer settler in Victoria, Australia, which made £3,500 (estimate £2,000 to £3,000).

**Surprise at Phillips:** Keen bidding pushed prices well beyond estimates at Phillips's sale of furniture, which totalled £28,883. Among the surprises was £2,500 paid by Adams for a Regency rosewood sofa table, estimated at £300 to £500, which was of fine quality but not in the best condition. Another was £1,500 paid by an American buyer, Meede, for a rare eighteenth-century American wall mirror, surmounted by an eagle and decorated in rococo manner (estimate £300 to £400).

A George II walnut tallboy chest went to Brown for £880. Equally buoyant were prices in a sale of Art Nouveau, which totalled £10,940. An ivory and bronze figure of a dancer by F. Preiss, entitled "Con Brio", of a type that has been priced around the £600 mark in previous sales, was sold for £1,000 to Arwas.

Lumley paid £680 for a Guild of Handicraft silver sauce bowl and cover by C. R. Ashbee.

# Dormitories in homes for old people criticized

Residents in many old people's homes have to sleep in dormitories and sit in overcrowded lounges because of what a report, published today by the National Corporation for the Care of Old People, describes as "blindness over standards".

The report says that some organizations responsible for homes are not familiar with Department of Health and Social Security standards, or other widely accepted criteria.

It criticizes the use in many homes of dormitories and suggests that there should be more study of residents' feelings.

Crowded sitting accommodation is also criticized. Often there is no sitting space other than a single lounge, and letting residents sit in their own rooms, even if they are large enough, is resisted.

The report dwells on the "large stone-built fortresses" built in the nineteenth century by religious orders and still run with devotion by nuns. It says there is probably no hope of their ever becoming homely in the modern sense, however much money is raised for the purpose of conversion or adaptation. "That is something that needs very serious study."

## MPs and peers to play bridge

Arrangements are almost complete for the first bridge contest between the two Houses of Parliament (a Bridge Correspondent writes). It will take place at the Chelsea Hotel on April 24.

The Commons team, which is strongly fancied, consists of Sir Timothy Kitson, captain, Mrs Sally Oppenheim, Mr Harold Lever, Sir Harwood Harrison and Mr Tim Sainsbury. Lord Glenkinglas, formerly Mr Michael Noble, MP, is captaining the Lords, and Lord Paget of Northampton will be the mainstay of their side. They will play duplicate rubber bridge.

## 25 years ago

From The Times of Saturday, April 15, 1950

### Loss to Liberals

From Our Parliamentary Correspondent

Two prominent Liberal peers, Lord Reading and Lord Rennell of Rodd, have decided to transfer their support to the Conservative Party, which they regard as being "the only party capable of offering effective resistance to Socialism."

They communicated their decision last week to Lord Samuel, the Liberal leader in the House of Lords, and he has accepted it with an expression of regret.

In their letter to Lord Samuel his two former colleagues referred to the result of the Liberal decision to fight the recent election on the widest possible front as having been disastrous to the party. They commented, too, on the quality of some of the Liberal candidates. In their view it is unlikely that the Liberal Party will do much better in future, even if the electoral system is changed.

## Victor Hugo stamps

Four postage stamps to commemorate the exile in Guernsey of Victor Hugo are to be issued on June 6 by the island's post office, and simultaneously at the Arphila 75 exhibition in Paris.

# Stamp proof makes £1,550

By Our Stamps Correspondent

A sale of stamps by Robson Lowe, of Pall Mall, made £43,192 yesterday. A proof in black inscribed "Old Original", struck in 1858 from the 1840 die made for the penny black, realized £1,550.

A proof, of which only four are known, taken from the original brass engraving for the 1840 Mulready Envelope was sold at £1,050 (estimate £300). A fine mint VR penny black, prepared for government use but never issued, made £900.

A letter from Grenada bearing the rare Lancaster ship letter mark made £425, and an 1881 cover with the "Iona Steamer, Greenock" duplex cancellation made £325 (estimate £35).

## Luncheon

**Lloyd's Register of Shipping**
Mr R. A. Huskisson, chairman of Lloyd's Register of Shipping, members of the general committee and senior staff, yesterday entertained at luncheon at the society's headquarters in Fenchurch Street:
The Norwegian Ambassador, Mr S. Clinton Davis, MP, Sir P. H. North-Lewis, Mr F. B. Bolton and Sir Nicholas Cayzer.

## Dinners

**Jordan Ambassador**
The Jordan Ambassador gave a dinner last night at 6 Chester Terrace in honour of Mr David Ennals, Minister of State for Foreign Affairs. The guests included:
The Ambassador of Bahrain and Shaikha Al-Khalifah, the Ambassador of the Arab Republic of Egypt and Mme [illegible]

**Royal Society of Medicine**
Sir John Stallworthy, president of the Royal Society of Medicine, accompanied by Lady Stallworthy, last night presided at a dinner for past and present members of council and of the finance and general purposes committee and their ladies at 1 Wimpole Street. Mr Justice May was the principal guest and speaker. Lady May and Mr and Mrs Philip Wade were among those also present.

## Latest appointments

Latest appointments include:
Vice-Admiral J. D. Treacher to be Commander-in-Chief Fleet, Allied Commander-in-Chief Channel, and Commander-in-Chief Eastern Atlantic Area in the rank of admiral in succession to Admiral Sir Terence Lewin in October.
Mr R. Beechey, Chief Executive of East Sussex County Council, to be honorary secretary of the Society of Local Authority Chief Executives (Solace).
The following to serve on the Department of Education and Science's committee of inquiry into the management and government of schools under the chairmanship of Mr Thomas Taylor:
Professor G. Baron, University of London Institute of Education; Mrs M. B. Broadley, headmistress, Dick Sheppard School, Tulse Hill; [illegible]

Princess Alice Duchess of Gloucester will attend the Electrical Association for Women's golden jubilee reception at Guildhall on May 6.

## University news

**Oxford**
The comparative philology prize for performance in classical honour moderations has been awarded to Catherine A. Coulder, scholar of Somerville College.

**Cambridge**
Dr T. M. Sugden, FRS, vice-chairman and chief executive of Shell Research and director, Thornton Research Centre, has been elected Master of Trinity Hall, from January 1. He will succeed Professor W. A. Deer, FRS, who retires from the mastership on September 1, but continues as professorial fellow. [illegible]

**Glasgow**
Latest grants include: [illegible]

**Wellcome Foundation:** [illegible]

**Exeter**
Grants: [illegible]

**York**
Appointments: [illegible]
Grants: [illegible]

# Keen competition and fine blooms in two shows at RHS halls

By Our Horticultural Correspondent

After the most ridiculously abnormal late winter and early spring weather, followed by the recent cold weather, the daffodils did not move for a month, nor did the alpines, so both shows drew keen competitive entries and lovely blooms at the Royal Horticultural Society's halls at Westminster yesterday.

The camellia show, which is also held in connexion with the Royal Horticultural Society's daffodil show in the new hall, was not so well supported because of the frosts and snow in the southern parts of England at Easter.

However, a gold medal was awarded to the International Camellia Society for a most interesting exhibit. Sir Giles Loder, who was unable to show flowers from the open, staged an exhibit of 106 varieties grown under glass, and a fascinating selection of camellia foliage. Few people realize how varied is the shape of camellia leaves.

Gold medals were awarded to three exhibitors of daffodils: Mr M. J. Jefferson Brown, Mr J. S. B. Lea, and Rathowen Daffodils.

The effect of the show is bright and colourful with flowering cherries, rhododendrons, azaleas and other flowering shrubs: pieris, *Genista hispanica*, *Cytisus praecox*, camellias, and the pure white *Exochorda* 'The Bride' among other flowering shrubs.

There are exhibits of dwarf conifers, also dwarfed or *bonsai* trees to support the competition of the Japan Society of London.

Alpine and rock garden plants are, of course, at their best now. In the Alpine Garden Society's show in the old hall there are fine pans of pleiones, including the pure white *P formosana* 'Polar Star', also *Primula marginata*, *P rosea*, *P denticulata*, the scarlet *Tulipa praestans* 'Zwanenburg Variety', with two or three flowers on a stem, fritillarias, lewisias, anemones, saxifrages, and many other lovely rock garden plants.

There are also grey-foliage plants, huge flowered polyanthus, and a group of hippeastrums, more popularly known as amaryllis, with enormous flowers. This was awarded a silver gilt Lindley medal, awarded for excellence of cultivation, among other things. As those hippeastrums came from Ludwig & Co, Hillegom, Holland, it is reasonable to assume that they were grown to this pitch of perfection by the lavish use of brewer's grains which the Dutch use generously for plant growing. Here brewer's grains are hard to come by as they go for animal feeding stuffs.

On the dais in the new hall is a most interesting exhibit of flowers—mostly subtropical, cut from the garden at Tresco Abbey in the Isles of Scilly. They include the scarlet *Banksia coccinea*, *Dryandra formosana*, a protea, and other plants.

The following awards were made:

First class certificate to Eucharis grandiflora, white, from Ludwig & Co. Awards of merit to Cymbidium Wollar 'Summerfield', white with a rosy-red lip, from Mr B. G. Darby, Barnet Green; Camellia reticulata 'Lila Naff', pink, and Rhododendron johnstoneanum, semi-double form, white, both from Sir Giles Loder, Leonardslee; Ercilla volubilis, pink flowers, from Lady Rosse and the National Trust, Nymans; Hippeastrum gracilis 'Firefly', rich red, from Ludwig & Co; Narcissus 'Alnmist', fair yellow perianth, red cup, from Mr D. J. Pearce, Witham.

Although the weather caused many including exhibitors to cancel their entries in the camellia show there are thousands of lovely blooms on show. Leading prizewinners:

Three single-flowered camellias, also three semi-double varieties: Major-general E. G. W. W. Harrison, Bodmin; three anemone-flowered varieties: Mrs M. A. Tame, Northwood; and four varieties other than varieties of C japonica: Major-General E. G. W. W. Harrison.

The daffodil show brought really lovely entries of a quality we have not seen for years. Leading prizewinners:

Open classes: three varieties Division II: Rathowen Daffodils; three varieties Division VI: W. Lemmens, Lisse; three varieties Division VII: Carncairn Daffodils; three varieties Division IX: R. A. Southon, Limpsfield Chart; three varieties with pink colouring: R. A. Southon.

Miniature Narcissi, three species, three hybrids and one species or variety: J. W. Blanchard, Blandford.

Amateurs' classes, 24 varieties: W. A. Noton, Oakham; 12 varieties, P. D. Williams medal: W. A. Noton; six varieties: R. Sterling, Bangor, co Down; six varieties Division I: E. Jarman, Billericay; six varieties Division II: R. W. J. Broadhurst, Carnforth; three varieties Division IV: R. A. Southon; six varieties, not fewer than three divisions: Miss E. Prichard, Margate; nine varieties, not fewer than five divisions: Miss Prichard; six varieties, costing not more than £1 a bulb: F. M. Hovan, Stroud; six varieties, not more than 50p a bulb: D. R. W. Sharp, Green Street Green; six varieties raised by the exhibitor, Simmonds medal: E. Jarman.

Novices, 12 varieties: R. W. Lyons, Limerick; six varieties: G. D. North, Rainham; three varieties: R. W. Lyons; three varieties, division II and division III: R. W. Cartwright, Rainham.

Blanchard trophy: R. W. Lyons. Best bloom: Mr J. Blanchard, variety 'Ashmore'.

The Alpine Garden Society's spring show is very colourful and well supported. Leading prizewinners:

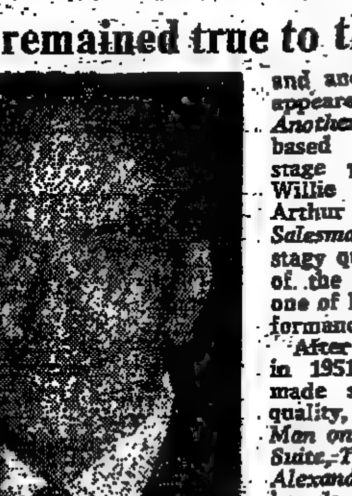
Farrer medal for best plant in show: Mrs J. K. Glaister, Milton under Wychwood (Dicentra cucullaria); Sewell medal for six pans of rock plants: Mrs K. Dryden, Sawbridgeworth; Society's medal for six pans of rock plants: Mrs M. Randall, New Haw; Roger Smith cup for six pans raised from seed by exhibitor: Mrs M. Randall; Greenfield spoon for six pans rock plants: Mrs B. Morton, Purley.

The show is open again today from 10 am to 5 pm.

# OBITUARY

## MR FREDRIC MARCH

### A screen star who remained true to the stage



Mr Fredric March, who died on Monday, at the age of 77, was one of those rare Hollywood performers who maintained throughout his career the respect of critics and public for his acting abilities in spite of his enormous success as a star personality.

Born at Racine, Wisconsin, in 1897, Fredric March, whose real name was Frederich McIntyre Bickel, began his career as a banker after studying at Wisconsin University, but after a spell of war service in the First World War he decided to become an actor instead. From 1920 he was appearing on the New York stage in such plays as *Your Obedient Husband* and *The American Way*, and even after he had become a prominent film star he continued to return to the stage from time to time. His first film was *The Dummy* (1928) and his first notable one *The Royal Family of Broadway*, Cukor's version of a famous stage skit on the Barrymores. In the next year, 1931, he consolidated his success and won an Academy Award with his brilliant performance in Mamoulian's film of *Doctor Jekyll and Mr Hyde*, later remade less successfully with Spencer Tracy.

From this time he starred in a long succession of lavish productions which gave him ample opportunity to show his immense versatility as well as to appear opposite many leading stars under a number of major directors. His range included light comedy as well as heavy drama, and costume roles of all periods and styles. In 1932, for instance, he appeared in de Mille's *Sign of the Cross* and that classic "woman's picture" *Smilin' Through*. The next year saw him in *Death Takes a Holiday* and the Lubitsch comedy *Design for Living*, and in 1934 he made *We Live Again*, a sombre version of Tolstoy's *Resurrection* with Anna Sten, the more lighthearted *Affairs of Cellini* and *The Barretts of Wimpole Street*, in which he played Browning to Charles Laughton's Mr Barrett and Norma Shearer's Elizabeth Barrett. This ability to play a remarkable variety of roles enabled him to remain an actor even when, as a leading star, he would have found it easy to settle into a routine of stereotyped parts. It also explains why he has never been too easy to pin down with a simple public personality, a sort of professional trade-mark, as a number of his contemporaries.

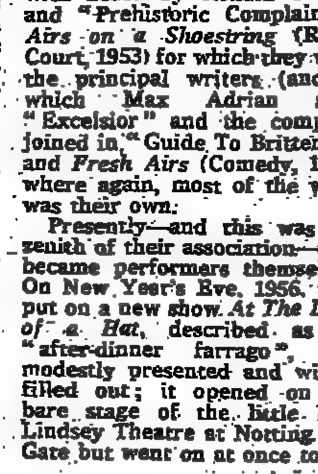
During the remainder of the 1930s, he was seen mainly in costume dramas and comedies including, of the former, *Les Misérables*, *Anna Karenina*, with Garbo, *Anthony Adverse* and *Mary of Scotland*, with Katherine Hepburn, and of the latter most notably Ben Hecht's acid *Nothing Sacred*. Among his other films *A Star is Born*, with Janet Gaynor, de Mille's *The Buccaneer* and Cukor's *Susan and God*, with Joan Crawford, deserve mention. During the war years his only interesting film was Clair's elegant comedy *I Married a Witch*, with Veronica Lake, and in 1945 he returned to the Broadway stage to appear in John Hersey's *A Bell for Adano*. The next year, however, he went back to Hollywood to make one of his most successful films, *The Best Years of Our Lives*. In this long study of a group of men adjusting themselves to civilian life after war service he gave a beautifully controlled performance as an officer who takes up his old job in a bank with his ideas much changed by his wartime experiences, and it brought him his second Academy Award. There followed the unfortunate *Christopher Columbus*, made in this country with his wife, Florence Eldridge, as Isabella of Spain, and another film in which he appeared with his wife *Another Part of the Forest* based on Lillian Hellmann's stage play. He also played Willie Loman in the film of Arthur Miller's *Death of a Salesman*, and despite a certain stagy quality in the conception of the film as a whole, gave one of his most interesting performances.

After another Broadway play in 1951, *Autumn Garden*, he made several films of some quality, among them Kazan's *Man on a Tightrope*, *Executive Suite*, *The Desperate Hours* and *Alexander the Great*, in which he played Phillip of Macedon before scoring perhaps his greatest stage triumph in 1956 with a superb performance as James Tyrone in O'Neill's *Long Day's Journey into Night* in which he was again partnered by his wife. For this performance he received the New York Drama Critics' Award for the Best Actor in a Straight Play. After this his films were fewer and farther between, but they included some of his best performances, such as that he gave as a middle-aged businessman hopefully in love with a young girl in *Middle of the Night*, and his bravura performance opposite Spencer Tracy in the screen version of *Inherit the Wind*. Other films he played in at this time included de Sica's *The Condemned of Altona* (some way after Sartre), *Seven Days in May* and *Hombre*.

Fredric March was one of the very few performers who could legitimately lay claim to being a top film star with a considerable film following, and yet remaining first and foremost an actor. His refusal to be typecast in conventional star vehicles seems to have done little harm to his enduring popularity, while it certainly did him nothing but good as an actor. As a dramatic actor it would be difficult to find his equal in Hollywood, but one should also remember his distinct comic talent, little exercized in recent years, and his ability in his early films to play a fairly conventional romantic lead and endue it with depth and individuality.

He married in 1927 Florence Eldridge and they had a son and a daughter.

## MR MICHAEL FLANDERS



Michael Flanders, the actor and lyric-writer, who has died at the age of 53, was long familiar on the London stage, particularly in the two-man entertainment with Donald Swann where he described himself as "the big one with the beard who writes all the words and does most of the talking" (both of them, he said, "for want of a better word", sang). Since a severe attack of poliomyelitis while serving in the RNVR during 1943, he had been confined permanently to a wheelchair.

Born in London, in March, 1922, and educated at Westminster School and Christ Church, Oxford, (where he read History), he directed and acted for University societies and began as a professional at the Oxford Playhouse in 1941 as Valentine in *You Never Can Tell*. Later he served as an able seaman in a destroyer on convoys to Russia and Malta, and—after his ship was torpedoed during the African landings—as an officer in Coastal Forces. Now, he contracted polio; at last, when out of hospital, he became a writer, and later a broadcaster.

Donald Swann, a light composer and accompanist, had been with Flanders at Westminster (they put on a revue there in 1940) and the pair started a professional collaboration with material for various intimate revues, particularly for three devised by Laurier Lister: *Penny Plain*, (St Martin's, 1951), to which, among other things, they contributed "Surly Girls" with decor by Ronald Searle, and "Prehistoric Complaint"; *Airs on a Shoestring* (Royal Court, 1953) for which they were the principal writers (and in which Max Adrian sang "Excelsior" and the company joined in "Guide To Britten"); and *Fresh Airs* (Comedy, 1956) where again, most of the work was their own.

Presently—and this was the zenith of their association—they became performers themselves. On New Year's Eve, 1956, they put on a new show *At The Drop of a Hat*, described as an "after-dinner farrago", and modestly presented and wittily filled out; it opened on the bare stage of the little New Lindsey Theatre at Notting Hill Gate but went on at once to the West End and a run of 759 performances. It was then that London heard "Tried by the Centre Court", "The Hippopotamus" ("Mud, mud, glorious mud"), and "The Honeysuckle and Bindweed", "Misalliance", and other songs that enabled Flanders and Swann to hold a theatre on their own.

They would sustain the entertainment, in various forms and in many places. Thus, they played, for example, throughout the United States (New York, 1959) and in Australia and New Zealand (1964); Flanders was married in New York to an American girl, Claudia Davis. The show developed into its second programme *At The Drop of Another Hat*, in 1963; this had two London scenes—at the Haymarket and The Globe—and from it came such things as "Slow Train", "Armadillo Idyll", and what a critic called the celebration of old brass bedsteads in any normal English pond.

Flanders, in his difficult circumstances, kept an unchallenged warmth and urbanity. During his career he made innumerable broadcasts of all kinds on radio and television; at one stage he was chairman of The Brains Trust. He wrote the libretti of two operas; translated (with Kitty Black) Stravinsky's *The Soldier's Tale*; and in 1962 appeared as The Storyteller in the Royal Shakespeare Company's production of Brecht's *The Caucasian Chalk Circle* at the Aldwych, London. In 1964 he received the OBE.

## MR L. PARKS

Larry Parks, the American film actor, died of a heart attack on Sunday at his home in Los Angeles. He was 60. He achieved brief, but spectacular fame playing Al Jolson in two films about the singer's life but he was virtually blacklisted by Hollywood after admitting membership of the American Communist Party and his career never recovered.

Parks was born in Kansas in 1914 and educated at the University of Illinois. He trained as an actor in stock companies and played in Clifford Odets's *Golden Boy* on Broadway. Entering films in 1941, he was mainly seen in "B" pictures before the tremendous success of *The Jolson Story* five years later.

It was a fairly conventional showbusiness biography lifted by Parks's considerable charm and vitality; the songs used Jolson's own voice with Parks miming. The same formula was employed in a sequel, *Jolson Sings Again*, in 1949 and both films have been constantly revived: they were shown together on BBC Television over Easter.

Soon after the second Jolson film, Parks appeared before the House of Representatives Un-American Activities Committee then engaged on a "witch-hunt" of left-wing sympathizers. Parks revealed that between 1941 and 1945 he had been a member of the American Communist Party and this admission more or less ended his career in Hollywood.

Among a small number of later films were *Tiger by the Tail* (1955) in Britain and an appearance eight years later in John Huston's biography, *Freud*, which was shot mainly on the continent.

Parks was married to the actress and musical comedy star, Betty Garrett.

Cardinal Charles-Joseph Journet, well known as a theologian, died in Fribourg yesterday. He was 84.

## MR THURSTAN JAMES

Frederick C. Gillman writes:

By the sudden death of Thurstan James, a former editor of the *Aeroplane*, a wide range of people in the aviation world have lost a good friend and a colleague whose sound judgment and enthusiasm have for long inspired them. Educated at Rugby and the Royal School of Mines, he began his career by mining in Portugal and then studied general engineering.

He joined Short Bros and worked on all-metal flying boats and during World War II he served in the Air Ministry and Ministry of Aircraft Production, in which he became a director of aircraft production. When the war was over he was appointed editor of the *Aeroplane*, having previously had experience of technical journalism as the founder in 1930 of the first gliding weekly, *Sailplane and Glider*.

On retirement from the *Aeroplane* in 1965, he continued his abiding interest in aviation as an independent consultant in air affairs and was closely associated with the Royal Aeronautical Society, of which he was proud to be a Companion, and with the Air League. For several years he was a member of the Air League's council and when he retired on rotation from that council he retained membership of its civil aviation and parliamentary and public relations committees.

In their discussions his incisive and singularly well informed contributions were highly valued. His love of aviation never deserted him—and indeed he was on his way to an aviation function at Manchester when he collapsed fatally in a train at Euston station shortly before its departure for the north. He was aged 71.

He was deeply devoted to his family and much sympathy is felt for his wife, Doris, and his son and daughter and their children.

## SIR S. ROWELL

Lieutenant General Sir Sydney Rowell, KBE, CB, Australian commander in the Second World War, has died aged 80.

Sydney Fairbairn Rowell was educated at Adelaide High School and the Royal Military College, Duntroon. During the First World War he served in Egypt and with the AIF at Gallipoli. Invalided back to Australia in 1916 he served in a number of administrative posts and went through the Staff College, Camberley, in 1925-26.

He was seconded to the British Army in 1935 and served in Britain until 1937, when he took a course at the Imperial Defence College and returned to Australia to help lay the foundations for the country's preparedness for war.

During the Second World War he served as a Brigadier with Australian forces in the Middle East. He later played a significant role in the Allied withdrawal from Greece after which he returned to Australia as Deputy Chief of Staff commanding the Australian forces which stemmed the Japanese advance through New Guinea in 1942.

Dismissed from this command by the Commander-in-Chief, Sir Thomas Blamey, after differences over the conduct of the campaign, he later commanded Australian forces in the Middle East and in 1944 became Director of Tactical Investigation at the War Office.

He became Chief of General Staff, Australia in 1950 to 1954 when he retired. He was made CB, 1946, KBE, 1953. He is survived by a widow and one daughter.

Mr Herbert Denys Hake, OBE, who died on April 12, at the age of 80, was headmaster of The King's School, Parramatta, New South Wales, from 1939 to 1964.

THE TIMES BUSINESS NEWS

Conference on strategies to beat inflation page 21

# ndustry indicates relief at Budget, out worries on investment persist

Maurice Corina
lustrial Editor

he business community last ht seemed relieved that it emerged relatively un-thed from wide-ranging Bud-measures bearing down on essential consumer spend, and reining back public endimre. Indeed, the City l industry, still left with ie severe liquidity and other blems, did admit that they several welcome conces-is from a Chancellor with le to give away.

ast night Ministers began ampaign to rally industrial behind the Budget isures. The extension of ck relief will be presented the most extensive single isure for companies ever en. In the new finan-year it means £1,300m and ll businesses, excluded November from the me's interim provisions, get nus.

linisters see further help ing from the developing ince for Industry loan arrangements as well as Mr Benn's Department of Industry plans for selective aid on a substantial scale.

The Confederation of British Industry, whose council meets today to debate the measures, commented: "This is a tough Budget, but it is the inevitable price the country has to pay for the high level of inflation.

"In particular, the Chancellor is right to reduce public expenditure and to allow nationalized industry prices more fully to reflect their costs, but we are deeply disappointed that the Chancellor has done so little to help industry's cash flow and investment."

It was felt by the CBI that industry would not be able to invest sufficiently to take full advantage of the upswing in world trade which the Chancellor saw ahead. This in turn was bound to affect the future level of employment.

Industrialists are being offered a limited inducement to bring forward some of their postponed capital schemes. But export manufacturers have been promised new help with official guarantees for financing large overseas trade deals, backed up by new amendments to the Prices Code designed to promote higher fixed investment.

Not all sectors of the business world were pleased. The tobacco and drinks manufacturers are hard hit. They forecast a fairly swift fall in consumption. Up to 50,000 businesses are affected by the new 25 per cent VAT rate, which will inevitably hurt some consumer goods producers, especially in the already hard-pressed domestic electrical appliances sector.

Other individual sectors bound to suffer include private employment agencies, where there are to be PAYE arrangements, bingo hall operators, and gaming licence holders.

Malcolm Brown writes: Typical of the reaction was that of Mr Leslie Smith, chairman of British Oxygen, who described the measures as "neutral and therefore disappointing". They did little to improve the cash flow of companies or to motivate middle and senior management, he said.

Sir Ian Lewando, chairman of Carrington Viyella, said that taken as a whole he did not think the Budget went as far as was necessary to give industry the ability to continue with capital investment at the proper rate.

A more bullish approach came from Lord Plowden, chairman of Tube Investments, who saw the measures as "a realistic beginning to dealing with the appalling budgetary problem". He particularly welcomed the moves on stock appreciation relief and the provisions for retraining.

The Association of British Chambers of Commerce said that Mr Healey had got the priorities right for solving our economic difficulties but had settled for a package which fell some considerable way short of curing them, especially in redressing the cash shortage of industry.

# Borrowing outlook disturbs the City

By Our Financial Staff

City reaction to the Budget speech was mixed. The gilt-edged sector remained disturbed by the prospects for the public borrowing requirement for next year. But equity dealers found the speech in line with their expectations.

The gilt-edged market, in accordance with tradition, did not trade after the Chancellor had risen to address the House of Commons. Earlier in the day, government bonds were tending to drift lower in cautious trading.

But City sources suggest that today's reaction in the gilt-edged market to the Budget may be one of disappointment and concern at the continuing gap between the Government's revenue and expenditure.

Mr Healey confirmed a fear current in the City this week that the public sector borrowing requirement for this year will be considerably in excess of that for 1973-74. The final figure for this year of £7,602m is nearly £5,000m more than initially announced at the time of the March Budget.

Moreover, for 1975-76, the borrowing requirement is expected to be £9,055m—the highest total on record. The Budget measures have, however, reduced this figure below the figure of £10,256m which it would otherwise have attained.

And the Chancellor has clearly taken notice of the widespread criticism of the huge public sector borrowing.

He referred in his speech to the serious effect of inflation on public sector wage bills and said that this "must cause one to reflect seriously on the wisdom of planning public expenditure solely on the basis of constant prices".

The speech received grudging approval on the equity market. Dealers were pleased by Mr Healey's warning on wage inflation and by the cuts in public spending, and resigned to higher revenue charges on tobacco, drink and luxury goods. The removal of the advance corporation tax surcharge was seen as a welcome aid to company liquidity.

Share prices, which had barely moved earlier, gained ground as the Chancellor's speech was reported in the City. The FT index, having hardly stirred from its overnight levels during the day, gained 5.2 to 305.2 in late dealings.

Prices topped off when the market heard the details of higher VAT and excise charges. Shares in Imperial Group, British American Tobacco, Thorn Electrical Industries and Distillers all fell.

# Tanker-owning deal with Iran could mean sales of £30m for BP

By Roger Vielvoye
Energy Correspondent

Iran has scooped its neighbours in the Organization of Petroleum Exporting Countries by pulling off a significant tanker owning deal with one of the big oil companies. British Petroleum is to sell the Iranian National Oil Co at least 10 of its fleet of 90 oil tankers and will then contribute a similar number of vessels to a jointly-owned tanker company.

BP is already negotiating the actual price of the tankers, and is reluctant to comment on the possible cost of disposing of more than 10 per cent of its fleet. But at present prices it is thought that the sales could yield more than £30m.

Opec members have been trying to break into the key field of tanker-owning for over a year but so far nobody has managed to negotiate a deal on this scale. Members of Opec have made it clear that once their fleets are established, they will give preference to companies using tankers registered in oil-producing states.

So far oil producers have concentrated on buying new tanker tonnage but now that there is a world surplus of shipping it makes sense to acquire some of the unused vessels held by the oil companies.

In a statement BP said an agreed number of crude carrying vessels up to about 250,000 tons deadweight as well as product carriers would be sold by the BP Tanker Co to NIOC in line with normal market practice and will be registered under the Iranian flag.

It is thought that at least three of these ships will be in the supertanker class and several more of over 100,000 tons deadweight. It is also significant that smaller product carriers are included in the deal as Iran is, like many oil producers, trying to build refineries on their territory that will export the end product to the main consuming nations.

The statement added that the tonnage together with a similar volume of British flag tonnage supplied by BP would form a pool of shipping for use by both parties and will be operated under joint management. Initially the ships would be operated from London but eventually the new fleet would substantially be based in Iran.

Much of the jointly-owned fleet will concentrate on moving oil from Iran to BP's major markets in Japan and Europe and to NIOC customers throughout the world. But it will not be restricted to oil operations based in Iran and the new company hopes that its ships will be trading throughout the oil producing nations.

BP said last night that the agreement represented a recognition by both parties of the need to develop a new kind of relationship between oil producers and oil companies.

For the Iranians the agreement is ideally timed. With a glut in world oil shipping capacity, tankers now command only a very low price in the market place. BP has recently been forced to sell six of its smaller crude carriers for scrap and dispose of another two small vessels to other owners. In addition it has laid up two other tankers.

# upplement ACT ıspended

Our Financial Staff

s a measure to improve orate liquidity this year, the ncellor will suspend the oration Tax supplement h was introduced in his Budget. The basic rate of oration Tax, however, re-is unchanged at the 52 per introduced a year ago.

not repeating the supple-t this year, he would "avoid ng to the liquidity problems those companies that pay lends and, therefore, ACT he current financial year", Chancellor said.

ccording to some outside nates, this measure could the corporate sector up to m in 1975.

expected, the Chancellor extend the relief from oration Tax when this es to increases in stock tions. The relief intro-l last autumn had added £800m to company rces and the relief would iven again this year, Mr ey said.

ough the measure was a orary one, pending the lands Committee on infla-accounting, the committee not yet reported and relief l be continued this year ery much the same lines before. Stock increases l be measured over two , however, instead of only under last autumn's ıla. Certain minor changes year cover the exclusion nd held by companies as vestment.

assist traders not covered he scheme last autumn will be this year a separ-nd further deduction from le profits equivalent to 5 ent of the amount of the relief itself.

# Jobs threatened, drink and tobacco trades say

By Patricia Tisdall

Warnings that the steep Budget duty increases could lead to cutbacks in investment were issued by both the drink and tobacco trades yesterday.

Both industries want some credit allowance built into the method of collection. They say that unless this is granted a severe disruption to cash flow could result leading to reductions in investment and employment plans.

The Scotch Whisky Association described the increase of 64p in the tax on a bottle of whisky as "savage" last night. Collectively the increase means that the whisky industry needs to find an additional £15m to release its products from bond. The industry is asking for excise duty to be collected on a similar basis as value-added tax by the introduction of a two-months' credit period.

The tobacco industry estimates that the Budget increases will add an extra £50m to its tax bill which, like the whisky industry, it has to fund until stocks are sold.

A spokesman for Imperial Tobacco expressed the industry's disappointment that no deferment of tobacco duty payment was introduced. "As a result", he added, "our working capital needs will be greatly increased."

Worst hit, however, are the whisky distillers, many of whom complained that they will have no alternative but to reduce investment in maturing stocks of whisky.

Most producers, including Teacher's and the giant Distillers Company, have already reduced investment plans. Distillers said last year that it had been unable to raise sufficient long-term funds to finance investments in whisky stocks, buildings and plant.

Even further reductions are expected because of the new increase in tax levels.

Duty on drink self-cancelling, page 20

# 'Bed and breakfast' deals hit

By Our Financial Staff

Mr Healey, stung by well-publicized cases of big companies doing "bed and breakfast" deals, has decided to block this loophole.

It is the device for postponing payment of capital gains tax by selling stock on one day and buying it back the following morning.

In this way an investor can establish losses to offset against the profits he makes on other shares. If he has no profits the losses can be rolled forward.

Several big companies have recently carried out "bed and breakfasting", including Barclays Bank, P & O with its stake in Bovis, Allied Breweries with its stake in Trust Houses Forte, besides Plessey and ICL.

Private investors who do "bed and breakfast" deals to postpone but not avoid gains tax are left alone, but not so wealthy taxpayers in gilt-edged securities who do a kind of "bed and breakfast" in reverse called "double banking".

The Chancellor also proposes to give relief from gains tax to working farmers, small businessmen and owners of historic houses. This is designed to meet the argument that a person subject to gains tax on, say, the business he has built up, has to pay his gains tax on assets that he is forced to sell to do so.

# VW to shed two plants and 25,000

From Dan van der Vat
Bonn, April 15

Volkswagen, West Germany's largest carmaker, today announced cuts of 25,000 in its workforce, the closure of two plants and reduction of output at others.

The cuts, which also affect VW's major subsidiary Audi-NSU, were brought about by losses last year of over £100m.

Apart from the general post oil crisis recession, the main reason for the ailing company's poor performance has been a serious decline in the exports on which it has been heavily dependent. This in turn was largely the result of the prolonged and continuing overall rise in the value of the Deutsche mark abroad.

The measures were announced by Herr Toni Schmuecker, VW's new chairman. They met immediate hostility from union leaders and the governments of the two southern West German states most directly affected—Bavaria and Baden-Württemberg.

This major surgery to save the company, in which the West German regional governments have a 40 per cent holding, was agreed at a six-and-a-half-hour meeting of its supervisory board at VW headquarters in Wolfsburg last night.

The seven trade union representatives on the board found themselves outvoted by the remaining 14 members. Herr Schmuecker described the measures as having been passed "by a clear majority".

Drastic though these cuts are, they do not constitute the beginning of the end for VW. The workforce has already declined from its peak at the end of 1971 of 160,000 to 136,500 today and the new cuts—to be phased over the next 20 months—will reduce the number to 116,000.

Already this year 4,500 people have left the company and these are being counted in the 25,000 cutback to be completed by the end of next year.

Works at Neuenstein and Heilbronn are to be closed down (though other companies may take them over, with some of the workers); and the Audi works at Neckarsulm (which itself narrowly escaped being axed) and the VW works in Brussels will fall back to working one shift a day.

At least 15,000 of the cutback in manpower will be achieved by natural wastage, early retirement and similar "painless" measures.

# Leyland seeks more aid from Government

By Peter Wainwright

British Leyland has approached the Department of Industry for more help. Parliamentary approval for government loan guarantees of £50m was won last December when it was decided that Sir Don Ryder should prepare a report on the group.

The latest request was made a few weeks ago, and shareholders' permission for the needed increase in group borrowing powers was sought by the board in a letter dated April 9.

In this letter Lord Stokes, British Leyland chairman, recalls that the first £50m was only an interim measure. Since December motor industry recession and a month-long strike at Castle Bromwich have led to a worsening in group finances.

It is understood that British Leyland has spent only £10m of the £50m, largely as a result of the Castle Bromwich dispute which lost it 9,000 Minis and £10m in revenue.

The latest plea for help, like its forerunner, is designed to ensure that the group can continue to trade normally until the Government acts on Sir Don Ryder's report and recommendations. If trading is not upset by further strikes or a worsening of the motor industry's plight, the new facilities sought might not be needed.

British Leyland's board has still not seen the Ryder report, and does not know when it will.

Sir Don Ryder will appear publicly before the Commons Committee of Inquiry into the motor industry in three weeks time. Lord Stokes; Mr John Barber, deputy chairman of Leylands, and managing director; Mr Alex Park, finance director, and Mr J. P. Lowry, labour relations director, appeared before the inquiry about six weeks ago.

Just how much additional help British Leyland is seeking—and, more important, how much it will get—did not emerge yesterday. Both sides will want to assess the Budget.

It is thought that the group's application will take about three weeks to process, and any decision to grant further aid would need a parliamentary resolution. The increase in borrowing powers to be sought from shareholders at an extraordinary general meeting on May 9 is from £390m to £520m.

On March 21, group borrowings of all kinds were £327m, of which overdrafts made up £120m. Unused facilities, apart from the £40m left over from the December guarantee, were only £13m.

# State sector study of pricing policies

By Peter Hill

Boards of Britain's nationalized industries will be involved in a further reappraisal of their future pricing policies. This is the inevitable consequence of the Chancellor's statement yesterday in which he reaffirmed the Government's commitment to encourage a tougher approach to their capital requirements and further progress towards elimination of deficit financing in the state sector by a return to commercial pricing.

In most nationalized industries the moves initiated last November by the Chancellor were warmly welcomed and they have lost little time in implementing price increases in an effort to wipe out the deficits which have been a characteristic of their operations for many years.

But the fact that Mr Healey is now pressing strongly for the complete removal of price restraint subsidies by the end of April next year, coupled with his objective of securing savings of about £100m by obtaining a more stringent and realistic determination of their capital requirements, could delay his overall objective of bringing the state sector back to profitability—unless further price increases are allowed.

Mr Healey, who in the mini-Budget last November calculated that revenue support for the state sector was running at a rate of £1,000m annually, said he now estimated that price restraint subsidies for the nationalized industries would be cut from £550m in 1974-75, at 1974 prices, to £70m this year—and were likely to be phased out completely by April next year.

The state sector's capital requirements this year are estimated at £3,212m compared with a provisional figure of £2,921m last year.

In the current financial year, industries, ranging from the National Coal Board to the National Bus Co and from the Post Office to the Electricity Council, estimate that they will be required to finance £2,164m of the capital needs from their own internal resources, with borrowings from the National Loans Fund providing an additional estimated £110m.

Other finance would come from capital receipts estimated at £91m, leaving net borrowing requirements from other sources of an estimated £847m.

Further price increases are already in the pipeline. British Rail, which raised fares by 12.5 per cent at the beginning of this year, is seeking further increases this summer and possibly another later in the year. Last night British Rail was clearly anxious about the impact of the Chancellor's plans on its investment programme.

The Post Office, which plans to spend £988m this year, has already boosted postal charges (although not by as much as it would have liked) and higher telecommunication charges will be implemented later this month.

Both Mr Healey and the Government attach considerable importance to eradicating deficits in the state sector which have undermined morale throughout the corporations from the boardroom to the shop floor.

# North Sea tax could raise £2,500m by 1980

Introduction of the petroleum revenue tax on North Sea oil production is likely to bring the country between £2,000m and £2,500m by the end of 1980, according to the Financial Statement and Budget Report published yesterday.

However, the additional revenue from tightening up the Corporation Tax provisions on accumulated tax losses is likely to be negligible in future years.

New guidelines on arms length trading have eliminated the building of tax losses since January 1, 1973 but the Government has been faced with the problems of the millions of pounds in losses accrued before this date.

Oil companies will be able to offset accumulated losses up to the end of 1972 against profits made between the beginning of 1973 and July 1974.

# Sharp boost for sterling as buyers move in

By Melvyn Westlake

Sterling was given a sharp boost on the international foreign exchange yesterday by the Chancellor. Currency traders were unanimous in seeing the Budget as "tough", painful and "just what is needed".

Against the dollar, the pound climbed almost $1\frac{1}{4}$ cents, to close at $2.3675. Its floating devaluation rate against 10 key currencies, compared with three years ago, narrowed to 22.0 per cent from the previous night's level of 22.1 per cent—its worst ever level.

The pound has been weakening for several days, partly on fears that the Chancellor would not take sufficiently tough measures to contain Britain's inflation rate and further reduce the trade deficit.

Monday's encouraging trade figures helped to underpin the pound when the markets opened yesterday. With the dollar losing a little ground generally in Europe, and the firm Budget statement, buyers of sterling were soon keenly in evidence.

# Citibank poised to raise stake in Grindlays Bank

By Christopher Wilkins
Banking Correspondent

Negotiations between First National City Bank and Grindlays Bank, which could lead to Citibank injecting new funds into Grindlays and stepping up its stake from 40 to 49 per cent, are now believed to be close to fruition.

It also seems likely that major boardroom changes will be introduced once the deal with Citibank has been concluded. Citibank may appoint a senior executive to a top board position at Grindlays.

Changes are also expected at Brandt's, whose £14m loss provision for 1974 has precipitated Grindlays into a search for new capital. It is widely thought that Mr Ian Michie will emerge as a key figure in the bank.

Mr Michie, whose father was at one time chairman of National and Grindlays Bank, has only been at Brandt's since last year when he was appointed head of the international department. Before that he had been responsible for Middle East and North American affairs at Kleinwort Benson and previously was for several years with Chase Manhattan Bank in the United States.

Lord Aldington, chairman of Grindlays, said last night that no decisions had yet been taken.

Several alternative methods of raising funds have been considered, but an injection of new funds by Citibank, which holds a 40 per cent interest in the bank, is now regarded as most likely.

The remaining 60 per cent of the bank is owned by National and Grindlays Holdings, which is in turn 42 per cent controlled by Lloyds Bank. Lloyds is believed to have disapproved of Citibank's proposal, fearing it could lead to an undue increase in its influence within Grindlays, but no other solution so far appears to have found favour.

# .YE changes ase agencies

ger employment agencies med the Chancellor's an-ement that the PAYE would in future apply to ay of office workers and engaged through ies.

Edward Hurst, a director ok Street Bureau of May-aid: "We are delighted, se it means we will in be responsible for de-ig tax by law rather than ption. Those who have to become self-employed ie sole purpose of avoid-x will be stopped.

e have always insisted on ting tax from everyone omes into our agency, but ess scrupulous agencies not, and this has cast ions on us. We have been ng for this for some

# £50m scheme to speed investment programmes

Details of the Chancellor's scheme to give special assistance for investment projects which have been postponed were released yesterday by the Department of Industry.

Idea behind the scheme, which will involve spending £50m, is that companies should be encouraged to invest now to be ready for the upturn in world demand expected at the beginning of next year.

The scheme will concentrate its spending on those applications which come from companies which can go ahead the most quickly. Assistance will be limited to substantial projects, involving expenditure of more than £2.5m on new investment as opposed to modernization.

Assistance will take the form of loans at concessionary interest rates, no greater than that fixed under Section 7 of the 1972 Industry Act, or with an equivalent interest relief grant.



## How the markets moved

The Times index: 121.72 −0.30
FT index: 305.4 +5.2

### Rises

| | | | |
|---|---|---|---|
| Adams Food | 2p to 17p | GKN | 6p to 218p |
| Audiotronic | 3p to 34p | Imp Chem Ind | 2p to 226p |
| BP | 9p to 357p | Magnet Joinery | 14p to 163p |
| Boots | 4p to 186p | Ofrex Grp | 9p to 87p |
| Courtaulds | 2p to 114p | Tube Invest | 10p to 230p |
| EMI | 2p to 118p | Tecalemit | $2\frac{1}{2}$p to 30p |
| Fisons | 2p to 335p | Unilever | $8\frac{1}{2}$p to $351\frac{1}{2}$p |

### Falls

| | | | |
|---|---|---|---|
| Brit Am Tob | 7p to 297p | Savoy Hotel 'A' | 2p to 22p |
| Beecham Grp | 4p to 219p | Thorn Electric | 8p to 144p |
| Brit Borneo | 6p to 104p | Union Corp | 6p to 437p |
| Distillers | 6p to 116p | Vlakfontein | 15p to 185p |
| Daily Mail Tst | 10p to 175p | Western Areas | 10p to 570p |
| Imperial Grp | 4p to 56p | Welkom | 10p to 405p |
| Leslie | 7p to 128p | Woodmill | 1p to 4p |

Equities moved higher after the Budget speech.

Gilt-edged securities closed quietly ahead of Mr Healey's speech. Sterling rose by 120 points to $2.3675. The "effective devaluation" rate was 22.0 per cent. Gold fell by $3.00 to $164.00 an oz. SDR-$ was 1.23809 on Tuesday, while SDR-£ was 0.525059.

Commodities: Reuters' index rose by 6.4 points yesterday to 1,095.1.

Reports, pages 24 and 25

### THE POUND

| | Bank buys | Bank sells |
|---|---|---|
| Australia $ | 1.82 | 1.77 |
| Austria Sch | 41.00 | 39.00 |
| Belgium Fr | 88.25 | 85.50 |
| Canada $ | 2.43 | 2.38 |
| Denmark Kr | 13.40 | 13.00 |
| Finland Mkk | 8.60 | 8.35 |
| France Fr | 10.10 | 9.80 |
| Germany DM | 5.80 | 5.60 |
| Greece Dr | 71.50 | 69.25 |
| Hongkong $ | 11.80 | 11.45 |
| Italy Lr | 1545.00 | 1495.00 |
| Japan Yn | 715.00 | 690.00 |
| Netherlands Gld | 5.90 | 5.70 |
| Norway Kr | 12.05 | 11.70 |
| Portugal Esc | 58.25 | 56.25 |
| S Africa Rd | 1.81 | 1.75 |
| Spain Pes | 134.25 | 129.25 |
| Sweden Kr | 9.65 | 9.35 |
| Switzerland Fr | 6.20 | 6.00 |
| US $ | 2.40 | 2.35 |
| Yugoslavia Dnr | 41.25 | 39.00 |

Rates for bank notes only, as supplied yesterday by Barclays Bank International Ltd. Different rates apply to travellers' cheques and other foreign currency business.

## On other pages

THE BUDGET, 1975

MULTI-RATE VALUE-ADDED TAX

# Retail traders worst fears realized

Introduction of a multi-VAT system has confirmed the worst fears of the retail industry. Despite well-organized lobbies by most sectors, Mr Healey has succumbed to the temptation. His decision immediately increases revenue while placing the main burden for its collection outside the Civil Service.

One of the more serious arguments being put forward is that the VAT rates are so complex many traders will simply refuse to operate them. If the Chancellor really wanted to make changes, the industry says, he should have reverted to a Purchase Tax.

The claim that they are acting as unpaid tax-collectors is one of the major objections to a multi-rate VAT system put forward by the retailers. They say that with many businesses selling zero-rated items alongside goods covered by the 8 per cent VAT rate, and using petrol (on which VAT is charged at 25 per cent) they are already involved in a multi-rate system and have enough problems in dealing with the present paperwork involved.

It has been suggested that while a return to purchase tax would initially be more complex, it would be beneficial because fewer businesses would be directly involved in its collection. Twenty times as many businesses are involved in VAT collection as would be in purchase tax collection, the Retail Alliance has said.

However, retailers have been preparing for multi-rate VAT since the last Budget with dealers in the so-called luxury goods market—audio equipment, photographic equipment, jewellery and furs—regarding it as inevitable that they will have to operate the top rate and face a dramatic slump in business.

Trade in these luxury sectors boomed before the November Budget and continued at high levels up to Christmas, but since then sales have fallen and allowed stocks to build up to the levels prevailing before November.

### Swingeing drinks duty 'self-cancelling'

Although some increase was feared, the drinks and tobacco trades are bitterly resentful of the swingeing increases in duty imposed by yesterday's Budget. The liquor industry in particular maintains that its sales have already been badly hit by the tax increases a year ago. The further rises will be self-cancelling for the Exchequer, they say, since they will inevitably result in a further dip in consumption.

Yesterday's rises in some instances, notably spirits, are more than treble those imposed last spring. The 1974 spring Budget raised tax (VAT and Excise duty combined) by 20p to 220p a bottle on whisky. Yesterday's Budget rise of 64p (VAT and Excise duty combined) brings the total tax payable on a standard bottle of whisky to £2.84, coming almost immediately after a manufacturers' rise of about 10p per bottle, the trade says, it could bring a severe fall in consumption.

In the wine sector the extra tax of 24p, is almost double the existing level and more than twice the increase imposed last year.

On beer the extra total tax of 2p is double the increase imposed a year ago. This increase however appeared to have relatively little effect on consumption. The production figures for last year at 11,094 million pints was a 4.8 per cent increase on 1973 and much better than the brewers had expected.

Wine and spirits were hit much harder, and the trade wanted no increase in the rate of duty from yesterday's Budget. The alcoholic drink trade wanted no increase in the rate of duty from yesterday's Budget.

Figures prepared by the Wine and Spirit Association show that between April and October last year the rate of increase in wine clearances compared with the previous 12 months had dropped from 28.3 per cent to 8.2 per cent. The rate of increase in clearances of spirits over the same period fell from 29.7 per cent to 11.7 per cent.

The association says that as a result revenue from duties in the fiscal year 1974-75 in real terms could show a net decline over the preceding year, despite the increases. VAT revenue will be affected, they say, because the higher duties requiring higher prices have resulted in the public trading-down towards cheaper wines and less expensive spirits.

### Smoking trends likely to continue

A rather different reaction is shown by the tobacco market to tax increases than shown by the drink sector. There is considerable movement within the market, but falls in overall consumption are much less dramatic.

Yesterday's increase which averages about 7p a packet of 20 cigarettes compared with an increase of about 5p on average last year is expected to affect the market in a similar way as the spring 1974 Budget increases.

Last year, for example, despite the biggest-ever duty increase imposed in the 1974 March Budget, the number of cigarettes smoked in Britain at 400 million was virtually the same as in 1973. In terms of the weight of tobacco smoked consumption dropped by only 1.5 per cent.

Historically, smokers have reacted to increases by switching to versions of the same types of cigarettes which use less tobacco, although they will probably buy more of them. This is because Customs and Excise duty, unlike value-added tax is levied on the weight of tobacco rather than its quality. To an extent, this movement has been accelerated by the publicity about the health risks of smoking, and the manufacturers have reacted by producing complete ranges of types under the same cigarette brand names.

Introduction of value-added tax has so far not altered this trend, but manufacturers foresee big changes in the future.

Bigger tax emphasis on tobacco price rather than weight will mean a greater retail price difference between cigarettes made from expensive flue-cured Virginia tobaccos, most commonly used in British brands at present, and cheaper air-cured tobacco such as that used in the French Gauloises brands.

The large tobacco groups have tried to structure themselves to cover all eventualities. But only time will show if their judgment has been correct.

OVERSEAS BORROWINGS

# A question mark over financing foreign debt

Britain's foreign debts have mounted rapidly since the last Chancellor, Mr Anthony Barber, initiated the programme of overseas borrowing to finance the balance of payments deficit in his 1973 spring Budget.

Over the course of the last two years such borrowings have risen to over $7,700m, and now stand only marginally below the peak level of indebtedness (short and medium-term loans) reached at the end of 1968 in the wake of sterling's devaluations the previous year.

As there is no prospect of eliminating Britain's current account deficit for some years, it can confidently be expected that the 1968 debt total will be dwarfed in the future.

But, of course, in real terms, allowing for inflation, the present level of indebtedness is still substantially less than in 1968. For, at that time foreign debts (incurred in financing the balance of payments) amounted to some 9 per cent of the gross domestic product, while on the same basis, they now still amount to less than 5 per cent of GDP.

Even so, the burden of interest payments is becoming steadily more onerous. The world-wide decline in interest rates has helped to alleviate this burden slightly but, assuming that the level of interest payments on most foreign debts is calculated on the three or six month Eurodollar deposit rate, servicing costs must now be roughly of the order of $700m or $800m a year. This is broadly equal to the combined current account deficits for January and February.

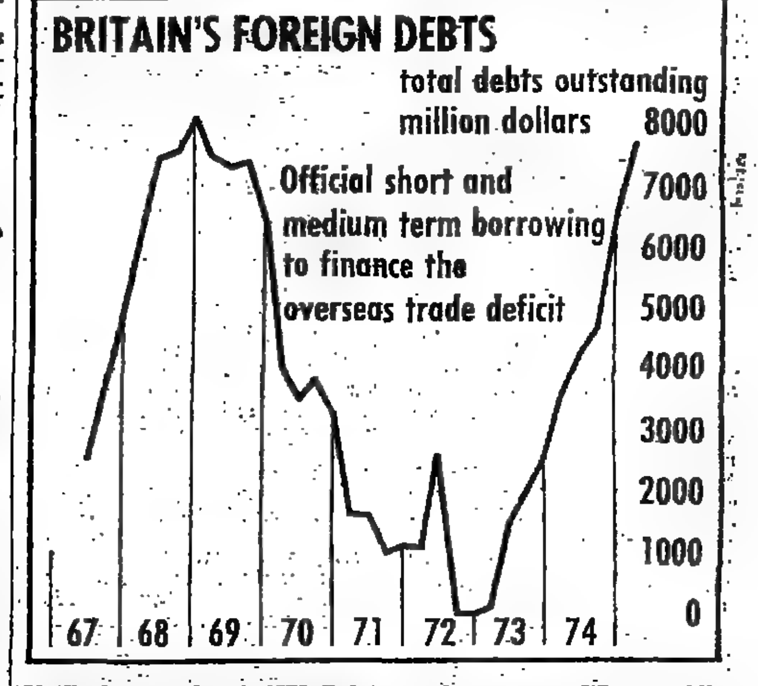
Yet, even this gives less than the total picture because it takes no account of the rapid build up of overseas sterling balances held in London which are an additional heavy obligation.

These sterling balances apart, there is a big difference in the type of debts now being accumulated and those incurred in the late 1960s.

The earlier debts were run up with official institutions like the International Monetary Fund and central banks. But they involved accepting a certain amount of outside control over the management of the British economy which proved politically embarrassing for the Government.

Although the Chancellor could, if forced, still turn to the IMF for a loan, he has preferred to encourage nationalized industries and local authorities to borrow abroad.

However, such loans have been less frequent in recent months, perhaps because of a growing feeling that Britain's creditworthiness would decline if public sector bodies continued to borrow on the scale that they were in 1973




Until the middle of 1972 Britain's debts comprised mostly borrowings from institutions such as the International Monetary Fund and the Federal Reserve Bank of New York. Since March, 1973, debts have resulted from the Government-promoted foreign borrowing of the public sector, but also include the Government's $2,500m Eurodollar loan as it was drawn upon. Where public sector borrowings have been spread over several months the total loan has been included in the quarter when the first tranche was drawn.

Borrowings by the public sector under a Treasury scheme which ran from February, 1969, to July, 1971, (amounting to a modest £147.2m) have been *excluded.*

MOTOR INDUSTRY

# Dearer licence may spur new car sales

*Motor manufacturers' leaders* who pressed the Chancellor in vain to relax hire-purchase restrictions and reduce the special 10 per cent car tax, nevertheless breathed a sigh of relief last night.

Although the industry went through the motions of presenting a strong case for Exchequer help to boost depressed sales, as most car makers feared Mr Healey, in a severe deflationary Budget, had to resort to raising road fund tax.

Surprisingly enough, this measure which puts a car licence up from £25 to £40 a year is expected to give a small boost to the motor trade. Industry spokesmen said last night that it could well increase the rate at which old cars were scrapped and persuade more motorists to buy replacements.

In the event Mr Healey was clearly impressed by the need to avoid further restrictions on sales for an industry already in serious trouble.

Mr Terry Beckett, managing director of Ford Britain, which in normal times is the accepted profit leader, said recently: "There is no way the British motor industry as a whole can be operating at anything but a loss, right now."

More than 15,000 workers have left BLMC, Ford, Chrysler and Vauxhall in the past year through voluntary redundancy, early retirement and natural wastage. Another 50,000 are on extensive short time.

With the jobs of about 500,000 men and women at risk in the motor plants and component firms Mr Healey has left market forces to prevent any increase in demand.

Car sales are already in the *doldrums and trucks which have* remained relatively buoyant are now joining them. There was little to be gained by Budgetary moves to restrict home sales and reduce the balance of payments deficit by diverting maximum effort to overseas markets. With the notable exception of commercial vehicle sales in the Middle East, world markets are equally depressed.

For the past 18 months United Kingdom car prices have increased every three months, the minimum period permitted by the Prices Board. In 1974 alone prices rose by some 40 per cent. This was more than enough to make buyers stay at home

Unsold car stocks world-wide are already a drag on markets. In Britain it is reliably estimated that they now top 400,000, sufficient for five months' sales at the present rate of demand.

By far the largest stocks—around 170,000—are held by the importers.

Fiercely competitive and in some cases questionable market tactics are being employed by all the major companies to try to reduce this drain on cash flow for themselves and their equally hard pressed dealers.

The move to extend increased investment relief (up from 17½ per cent to 20 per cent) to include commercial vehicles came as a welcome surprise. In recent months commercial vehicle sales which had remained surprisingly buoyant have begun to follow the same downward path as cars.

This has caused increasing concern, particularly among specialist truck manufacturers like Foden, which had to go to the Government for financial assistance.

INDUSTRIAL TRAINING

# Extra £50m allotted for two-year programme

Industrial training is to be "strengthened and accelerated", the Chancellor announced. The recession must be used to prepare for the upswing by improving the level of training—by companies, in government skill centres and in colleges of further education.

An extra £20m in 1975-76 and £30m in 1976-77 would be allocated to the Manpower Services Commission. This would go towards strengthening and accelerating the growth of the training programmes of industry and of the Training Services Agency; introducing special training for the unemployed; improving the efficiency of the Employment Services Agency; and providing additional incentives for job mobility.

This would be on top of the substantial development already planned for the commission's existing programmes.

This would provide training for about 30,000 additional people in 1976. In addition to 20,000 places provided once and for all short-term, the total involved in Training Services Agency schemes in 1976 would be 80,000, compared with 46,000 in 1974.

FOUNDRY GRANT

# Further assistance likely under Industry Act

Proposal of a government grant scheme to help investment in ferrous foundries has confirmed the industry's case that state aid is necessary if it is to meet forthcoming legislation.

The Council of Ironfoundry Associations, which welcomed the new measure yesterday, is already in discussion with the National Economic Development Office and the Department of Industry to assess present needs and the amount which might be available under the Industry Act.

In his speech the Chancellor said that in consultation with management and unions further schemes, like the one already established for wool textiles, would be introduced for certain industries, including the foundry industry.

The textile scheme, launched by the Conservaties 20 months ago, was expanded in February, this year, so that companies could qualify for a grant of 20 per cent instead of the previous 15 per cent of eligible costs for reequipment projects.

The grant is 30 per cent if new buildings are included in a company's plans—a measure designed to speed up renewal of old premises.

Mr Derek Farrant, director of the ironfoundry council, said the cost of meeting new air pollution measures to be introduced next year would be about £60m

The industry's ordinary capital expenditure requirements would boost the total investment needed over the next five years to an estimated £250m.

# Support expenditure cuts

By Our Industrial Editor

Some reduction in government expenditure on support for trade, industry, and employment is indicated in the supply estimates published yesterday by Mr Joel Barnett, Chief Secretary to the Treasury.

Although some £2,498m is estimated for the financial year 1975-76 compared with £2,247m indicated in the recent Government White Paper on Public Expenditure (revised at estimated current prices), an increased provision for compensating nationalized industries accounts for the rise.

The latest estimates show the following comparisons between the White Paper allocations, given in brackets, and the supply estimates, covering the public expenditure element at 1975-76 estimated prices.

Regional support and regeneration £541m (£638m), industrial innovation £217m (£219m), general support to industry £231m (£278m), support for nationalized industry £751m (£414m), international trade £410m (£419m), functioning of labour market £235m (£218m), other services £113m (£61m).

*Supply Estimates 1975-76 Memorandum by the Chief Secretary to the Treasury. S.O 51p.*

# Benn plea to retain power of direction

By John Winder

Mr Benn, Secretary of State for Industry, has found some occasions when his present *relationship* with the Post Office, for which he is the responsible Minister, to be too remote.

He said this in standing committee on the Industry Bill yesterday, when arguing against the Conservative attempt to delete his power to give the National Enterprise Board specific directions.

Mr Benn said that when he was Postmaster General in a previous Government, he had 999 Parliamentary questions in one year ranging down to the late delivery of a cake. He contrasted this with the present system, and recalled that there had been a big question about an order for equipment from Plessey.

"That was a major matter of public concern, and there was nothing whatever, other than a private talk, which one could do with the Post Office about it", he said.

Mr Tim Renton (Conservative, Mid-Sussex) had moved an Opposition amendment to prevent the Secretary of State giving specific directions to the NEB and confining him to general directions.

Mr Ian Mikardo (Labour, Tower Hamlets, Bethnal Green and Bow) said that there was nothing in principle wrong with the specific direction so long as it was not overdone and was made openly and publicly.

Mr Benn said that since all members of the NEB would be appointed by and could be removed by a Minister, and the Board's investment programme had to be approved by Ministers, and the Treasury, the influence of Ministers was formidable. They were discussing only whether that influence should be private or public.

# Demand for steel likely to fall 5pc this year

By Peter Hill

Forecasts that this year could see a 5 per cent decline in steel consumption in the western world, with a general upturn in the level of economic activity at the end of this year or early in 1976, were made in London yesterday by Mr Charles B. Baker, Secretary General of the International Iron and Steel Institute (IISI).

Mr Baker told a conference on the steel industry: "This would mean, however, that it would still be at a level of about 470 million tons, which is 8 per cent above the figure for 1972, a rather good year, and only 4 per cent below 1973 when the period of high level demand was approaching its peak."

The IISI executive, whose optimistic prognostications last October at the organization's annual conference in Munich came under considerable criticism, was speaking against the background of a substantial downturn in demand for steel throughout the world.

Addressing a conference organized by the Institute of Purchasing and Supply, Mr Baker said that in terms of regions or main producing areas, the declines in apparent steel consumption this year compared with last might be 6 members of the EEC, a 14 per cent drop in the United Kingdom, a 5 per cent fall in the United States and about 2 per cent in Japan.

He believed that the problems reflected only a trough of a cycle that was evolving along an upward trend and there were many who believed that an upturn might come at the end of this year or early in 1976.

Governments of the western world have started to take measures which will lead to a revival of demand, probably at the price of continued inflation but also with the effect of reduced unemployment.

"For steel, all this is as important as it is for other industries. The difference is, however that there are in the hands of steel users and merchants, considerable inventories which have to be used up by a revival in the demand before steel order books will improve", he said.

# Kuwait may halve supplies of crude to BP and Gulf

By Roger Vielvoye

Energy Correspondent

British Petroleum and Gulf Oil may find their crude oil lifting from Kuwait cut by over a half as a result of the complete takeover of the Kuwait Oil Company by the Government.

Mr Abdel Muttaleb Kazemi, *Kuwait's oil minister, said in an* interview with *Petroleum Intelligence Weekly* that he would be prepared to guarantee enough crude oil to meet the needs of the two companies for marketing and refining, but he would not make oil available for them to sell to third-party customers.

"I think it is better that we sell directly to those customers. We are certainly ready to provide BP and Gulf with 800,000 barrels daily—400,000 barrels a day each.

"Maybe we would go up to a million barrels a day for the first year. We could even go above that for the transitional period during this year to accommodate their present needs."

A cutback of this size would present serious problems for both companies. At present they are jointly lifting 1.7 million barrels of oil a day—900,000 barrels by Gulf and 800,000 barrels by BP. The minister also added that sales contracts would not run for more than four years.

He added that Kuwait was considering paying about $50m for the remaining 40 per cent stake in KOC held by the two oil companies. The settlement would be based on net book assets including the refinery and LPG plant.

But under the new regime BP and Gulf could not expect to continue with their present profit margins for Kuwait oil.

**Onshore licences:** Fourteen onshore oil and gas exploration licences covering various parts of Britain have been awarded to Shell UK by the Department of Energy.

The licences cover 939 sq km in Clwyd, Merseyside and Cheshire; 3,340 sq km in Derby, Hereford, Leicester, Shropshire, Stafford, the West Midlands and Worcester; 2,000 sq km in Bedfordshire, Cambridgeshire, Essex, Greater London, Hertfordshire and Northamptonshire; and 500 sq km in Oxfordshire, Berkshire and Wiltshire.

Under the terms of the licences, Shell must obtain the permission of the landowners

# UK manufacturing output down a point in February

By Melvyn Westlake

British industry remained solidly in recession during February, although the steady overall decline in output does not appear to have been sustained.

According to provisional figures published yesterday by the Central Statistical Office, the all industries index of production was virtually unchanged at 105.3 (1970=100), compared with 105.2 in January.

But there was a further fall in the output index for manufacturing industry alone. It fell to 106.9 from 107.2.

Viewed over the December-February period, manufacturing output is shown to have declined by 2 per cent, while the fall across industry as a whole is estimated to have been about 2½ per cent.

Moreover, compared with the previous output peak, reached in the third quarter of 1973, the decline is now estimated at 5½ and 6 per cent respectively for the manufacturing sector and all industries.

Within manufacturing the chemical and textile industries still appear to be suffering most acutely, with a production drop of around 5 per cent.

INDUSTRIAL OUTPUT

The following are the index numbers of industrial production in February, seasonally adjusted, released by the Central Statistical Office yesterday (1970=100).

| | | All Industries | M'fcturing Total |
|---|---|---|---|
| 1972 | Q1 | 98.2 | 98.6 |
| | Q2 | 102.7 | 101.1 |
| | Q3 | 102.9 | 102.3 |
| | Q4 | 105.8 | 105.4 |
| 1973 | Q1 | 109.8 | 109.9 |
| | Q2 | 109.6 | 110.0 |
| | Q3 | 110.7 | 111.5 |
| | Q4 | 109.5 | 110.5 |
| 1974 | Q1 | 103.5 | 105.7 |
| | Q2 | 107.8 | 109.3 |
| | Q3 | 108.6 | 110.2 |
| | Q4 | 105.4 | 106.2 |
| March | | 105.9 | 107.9 |
| April | | 107.3 | 109.0 |
| May | | 107.5 | 108.7 |
| June | | 108.6 | 110.3 |
| July | | 109.2 | 110.7 |
| Aug | | 109.1 | 111.2 |
| Sept | | 107.6 | 108.8 |
| Oct | | 107.0 | 107.5 |
| Nov | | 106.6 | 107.7 |
| Dec | | 102.8 | 103.6 |
| 1975 | | | |
| Jan | | 105.2 | 107.2 |
| Feb | | 105.3 | 106.9 |

# Fiat to stop car lines for four day:

From John Earle

Rome, April 15

Fiat is to suspend car pı duction for four days duri May under an agreeme reached with the unions tod after the intervention of Sigr Mario Toros, the Labc Minister. As in earlier prod tion cuts since the winter, ı objective is to prevent stocks unsold cars exceeding ceili mutually agreed with unions.

The latest negotiations w saved from breakdown th times by Government interv tion.

On another issue raised the unions, the managen agreed to ensure that worl employed by subcontractors cleaning and mainten: inside Fiat plants would no made redundant for the res this year.

### Japan's monopoly Bi

The Japanese government completed the outline of a ( Bill for revising the monopoly law. The Bill w give the Fair Trade Commis powers virtually to spli monopoly by ordering i transfer part of its busi cabinet sources said.

### Honda-Arab venture

Honda has announced p to assemble trucks and m cycles in Egypt, Saudi Ar Algeria and Syria, using fı to be raised in the Arab m market. The company rece signed a contract in London a $25m (about £10.5m) t issue which will be put on in most Arab nations on A 18.

### French jobless

Unemployed people seel work in France fell on unadjusted basis to 754,80( March from 769,900 in ruary, the Labour Ministry s

-FLATION STRATEGIES CONFERENCE

# [C]ase for treating unutilized debt-raising capacity as a resource

[Infla]tion has seriously increased companies' [diffic]ulties in interpreting their profit positions [and i]n maintaining financial balance. These [diffic]ulties were discussed yesterday at a con[feren]ce on *Business Strategies for Inflation*, [organ]ized by the CBI, the Administrative [Staff Colle]ge at Henley, and *The Times*.

[Profe]ssor A. J. Merrett, who [is visiti]ng Professor in Finance [at the] London Graduate School [of Busi]ness, discussed financial [plannin]g and reporting *under* [inflatio]n, on the assumption [that th]ere was a significant [risk th]at companies face at [an] inflation rate of twice [the ...] per cent a year [experie]nce in the past 20 [years].

[He s]aid: "Many companies [under] pressure to conserve [cash ha]ve moved into the posi[tion, o]ften from the *other* [extrem]e of formerly regarding [...] *as an almost free* [...]) of regarding the [...] *of the company's un*[used] borrowing capability as [a sacros]anct provision.

"[In] fact, a significant pro[portion] of the *risks against* [which] this debt-raising capabi[lity is] held as a provision [could b]e profitably avoided if [it were] deployed as a resource [and p]ositively invested to [avoid th]ese risks."

[It wa]s important to identify [the le]vel of borrowing, in [terms o]f interest cover, consis[tent wi]th a company maintain[ing its] standing in both debt [and equ]ity markets. A broadly [applica]ble rule was that all in[terest c]harges should be twice [covered] by pre-interest profits, [taxes] and dividends.

[Witho]ut that level of cover any increase in interests rates or decline in earning would force a company either to cut dividends or meet dividends *out of reserves*.

Professor Merrett went on: "The differential rates of inflation of revenues and costs, and the associated side effects of inflation in the shape of price control, will substantially alter the real profitability of company activities and in many cases justify a thoroughgoing reappraisal with a view to disinvestment."

Disinvestment analysis, he emphasized, was concerned with cash flow—on the same principle as applied to capital projects—and not merely book profitability. The relevant cash flows would be historic cost profits plus historic cost depreciation, less the difference between historic cost and cash outlays on stock and historic cost and replacement outlays on assets, plus net cash arising from accruals and trade credit. It would largely approximate to replacement cost.

He added: "There should emerge from the disinvestment analysis a positive programme of systematic disinvestment from activities which are inadequately cash profitable and an agenda of activities requiring restructuring and possible greater investment to render them viable—and finally a set of activities justifying further expansion investment."

Inflation on an upward trend would substantially affect all *projects whose net cash flows* increased more or less in line with the inflation. Labour-saving projects would show increased returns particularly because of the tendency for labour costs to rise at a greater rate than that of general inflation.

The other effect was on investment expansion in the United Kingdom. This was extremely sensitive to the difference between cash revenues and cash costs.

Professor Merrett commented: "In a free market and buoyant economy which was not inflating at substantially different rates from that of foreign competitors, these differential rates might be of *negligible importance*. In an economy which is anything but buoyant, substantially constrained by price control and inflating at markedly greater rates than its international competitors none of these conditions is met.

Professor Merrett added this warning: "No haven of safety is to be found by companies simply accumulating cash and regarding all of their unutilized borrowing capacity as a sacrosanct provision against future contingencies.

"Any company using labour and materials costs is, by the sheer fact of its exposure to cost inflation, in a position of extreme vulnerability. The best that accumulation of cash and unutilized borrowing can do is simply to provide resources to meet and not to check these inflationary costs. Unless these costs are contained by some means—one of which is a rational policy for counter inflationary investment—these preciously conserved resources *will ultimately be completely consumed*.

Professor Merrett added one other warning on expansionary investment which was "*exposed* both through either an increase in the rate of inflation or its decrease". An increased rate would widen differentials between revenues and costs inflation and a decrease was likely to be accompanied by recession "since it is extremely improbable that significantly decelerating inflation from the current United Kingdom levels can occur without severe recession."

Professor A. J. Merrett: benefits of unused debt-raising capacity.

## Mr James Morrell

"A gradual lowering of British inflation through the years to 1980" was forecast yesterday by Mr *James Morrell*, a well-known economic forecaster and *director of the Henley* Centre for Forecasting. "But", *he cautioned*, "it seems unlikely that inflation will moderate and price rises be brought back to the average levels of *the 1950s for another decade*".

He attributed the latest bout of inflation to strong social pressures on governments, obliging them to pursue permissive fiscal and monetary policies which then resulted in excessive prices increases. "The situation is quite clear", he said, "that the social pressures under a free system will make for rising inflation. The key to this pattern of behaviour lies in the weakness of the democratic system."

This system would continue for the foreseeable future, he argued, and no early release from inflation could be expected. Effective international agreements to control inflation were unlikely and "it would be unrealistic to expect the present excesses to be cured in less than a decade".

"Right-wing dictatorships, mandated to restore order and to implement tough (anti-labour) policies are a distinct possibility", he continued.

## Mr Adrian Cadbury

"It is clear that since the mid-1960s United Kingdom companies have not been generating enough cash to maintain their productive potential let alone expand it, but the combination of accelerating inflation and price control has had particularly disastrous results since 1972", according to Mr Adrian Cadbury, chairman of Cadbury-Schweppes, in his contribution to the speakers' forum on Finance for Industry.

*Because companies had been* unable to finance investment from their own resources they had had to resort more and more to increases in their short-term debt. "Industry is, therefore, increasingly relying on debt, although its financial position is thereby at greater risk through fluctuations in interest rates upwards or in in*come downwards*."

Mr Cadbury also called attention to the effects on inflation on trade credit. "Increased rates of inflation exert intense pressure on the whole mechanism of trade credit and the consequential impact on individual companies may be unrelated to economic efficiency and may simply reflect *differences in size or method* of financing", he said.

*Moreover, present* techniques for the control of infl*ation had discriminated* against the company sector. "Public *spending is now 30 per cent of* all expenditure and it is rising both because *of inflation and* because it is relatively immune to the counter-inflation disciplines."

## Mr Ronald Grierson

"A developed industrial economy needs a constant supply of risk capital. Unfortunately—and the inflationary trends of the last few years have demonstrated this all too clearly—the availability of money willing to take such risks within the framework of joint-stock capitalism cannot for ever be taken for granted."

This warning was given by Mr Ronald Grierson, a senior partner in Panmure Gordon and Co, the stockbrokers, in his talk on the need for equity capital to keep industry's *financial structure balanced*. "A business entailing a high degree of risk clearly needs a larger equity base than one with a relatively risk-free turnover", he said.

He was critical of the absence of commercial pressures on public sector industry. "Whatever is implied by the expression 'mixed economy'—and there is some doubt whether it has any real meaning at all—it certainly does not imply that the metabolism of capitalism has changed and that its disciplines have become irrelevant."

## Mr L. V. Tindale

Mr L. V. D. Tindale, deputy chairman of *Finance For Industry*, urged companies to spread their risks. This allowed a company to maximize its chances of survival even if it was done at the expense of taking the cream off some of the profits in good times.

## Professor B. Taylor

In a paper on "Strategic Planning in Conditions of Uncertainty" Professor Bernard Taylor, Professor of Business Policy at the Administrative Staff College, argued against the use of "a comprehensive formal planning system" which was "of limited application". He preferred "policy analysis" as a discipline.

In an uncertain situation, such as that produced by inflation, "the most suitable method of strategy-making is '*muddling through*' or making decisions incrementally on the best available information, but not trying to preempt any long-term strategies. In a politically unstable situation the position is simply precarious", he affirmed.

*Speakers at yesterday's conference session were: Professor Bernard Taylor, Professor of Business Policy at the Administrative Staff College; Mr James Morrell, director of the Henley Centre for Forecasting; Mr William Rees-Mogg, Editor of* The Times; *Mr Adrian Cadbury, chairman of Cadbury-Schweppes; Mr Ronald Grierson, senior partner at Panmure Gordon, the stockbrokers; Mr Robert Clark, chairman of Hill Samuel, the merchant bankers; Professor A. J. Merrett, visiting Professor in Finance at the London Graduate School of Business; and Mr L. V. D. Tindale, deputy chairman of Finance For Industry. Chairman at the session was Sir Donald MacDougall, chief economic adviser at the Confederation of British Industry.*

## Mr William Rees-Mogg

Mr William Rees-Mogg, the editor of *The Times*, emphasized the importance of public attitudes towards inflation in his talk on "The natural history of inflation". He pointed to the contrast between West Germany and Britain, and said Germany's experience of hyperinflation had helped governments there to apply more strict monetary disciplines than would be readily accepted in this country.

He also stressed the vital role of the money supply. It was widely accepted, he said, that no rapid inflation in the past had not been accompanied by explosive rises in the money supply.

# [Ba]nk of Japan cuts [ba]se rate to 8½pc

[From Davi]d Blake

[Faced] with rising unemploy[ment a]nd an easing of the [moneta]ry situation, the Bank [of Japa]n cut *its base rate yester*[day fro]m 9 per cent to 8.5 per [cent].

[Mr T]eichiro Morinaga, the [Governo]r, gave warning that [there w]ould be no easing of [the tigh]t money policies his in[stitutio]n has pursued for the [last ...] months.

[The b]ase rate gesture is seen [as a s]ign that the country is [beginn]ing to edge *out* of the [...c]risis into which it was [plunge]d by the upsurge in [oil] prices. Japanese Bank [rate w]as raised to 9 per cent [on Dec]ember 22, 1973, and has [stayed a]t the level *ever since* as [part of] the Government's cam[paign t]o curb inflation and re[store t]he balance of payments.

[Some] evidence that progress [toward]s these targets has been [achieve]d came yesterday when [the ban]k announced that whole[sale pr]ices had declined in [March] for the third consecu[tive mo]nth. *This news has* its [counter]part in the balance of [paymen]ts situation, which [moved] into surplus in February [as a re]sult of sharply increased [exports] and lower imports.

[A he]avy price has been paid [for thi]s success, however. Un[employ]ment topped the million [mark i]n February, the Prime Minister's office announced *yesterday, reaching 2 per cent* of the workforce, an eight-year record *the Government* could well do without.

The combination of better price performance and a domestic slump has led to growing pressure for reflation and it is possible that in spite of Mr Morinaga's protestations the bank will be pressed in coming weeks to ease the strict, though unofficial, limits it imposes on commercial lending through its "window guidance" policy.

*The bank's argument* against any further easing of its policies and against *a further* cut in the bank rate is that many companies would react to any expansion by pushing through a new round of price increases, thus starting the inflationary spiral on its rounds again.

The domestic economy is just about to turn up in any case, the bank argues, thus ending five consecutive quarters of declining industrial activity.

Controls eased: The Federation of Bankers Associations yesterday abolished its control system on short-term lending rates. The move designed to meet criti*cism that the scheme* breaches Japanese cartel laws, is unlikely to have great practical effect. Japanese banks are likely to keep their rates in step with each other because they are accustomed to working under the present system.

# [S]pillers launch of new [ca]nned dog food

[The possi]ble *introduction* of a [higher] level VAT scale for pet[foods w]*as one factor influencing* [Spiller']s launch of a new [mediu]m priced canned dog food [this w]eek. The new product, [Champ,] is being introduced to [the tra]de at a pre-Budget recom[mende]d price of 16½p per can.

[It] is intended to fit be[tween] top priced brands which [sell a]t about 18p to 19p and [cheape]r brands at 14p, and to [attract buy]ers who decide to "trade [down"] following a sudden price [increas]e.

"[Impo]sition of a 25 per cent [VAT r]ate on pet foods would [push th]e top brands through the [20p ret]ail price barrier, com[mente]d Mr Ray Hampson, mar[keting] director of Spillers yesterday.

[Prod]ucers in the fast-growing [petfoo]ds field were bitterly dis[appoin]ted when in the 1973 [Budge]t their products were not [zero-ra]ted for value-added tax with other foods, which carried purchase tax. A [factor] in *the timing* of the [Cham]p launch was the belief [that] petfoods could again be [singled] out by the Government [as a l]uxury product.

[Cha]mp, which is Spillers' [secon]d new canned dog food [launc]h in 12 months, is being [tested] in Yorkshire. Advertising [which] will be at *an equivalent* [nation]al rate of £500,000 starts [at the] beginning of June. It will [stress] the claim that Champ [contai]ns more protein and less [cerea]l than its competitors and [that it] is therefore less likeli[hood] of dogs *becoming* over[weigh]t.

[Ad]vertising agents Geers [Gross], who already handle [Winal]omeat, Kattomeat and a [range] of Homepride products [for S]pillers, has been given the [Cham]*p account*.

[An]other factor influencing [the] launch of Champ was the [outst]anding success of Choice [Cuts], a top priced canned dog [food] a year ago. Choice Cuts [was] voted the most successful [new] product for 1974 in the [annu]al poll of the trade maga[zine] *Super Marketing*.

## [Ma]il order protection

[A] scheme to protect national [new]spaper readers from losing [mon]ey because mail order firms [hav]e gone into liquidation, is [bein]g introduced on a joint in[dust]ry basis this month. The plan is one of several consumer protection measures mooted by the advertising industry recently, as a result of pressure from the Office of Fair Trading. Discussions leading to it were in progress for many weeks before full agreement could be reached.

Under the agreement, a central pool of funds is being created by Newspaper Publishers Association members for the first year of operation. Later it will be built up by contributions from mail order advertisers and agencies. Mail order advertisers are being asked to *contribute £200 per year if their* spending in NPA member papers exceeds a total of £2,000 in that time, or £100 if spending is less. Agencies are to contribute £40 per year for each mail order client. The money will be used to compensate any readers who lose money because of a failure of a mail order advertiser.

The *agreement* defines mail order advertising as advertisements asking for cash to be sent in advance of goods being received. This excludes goods bought from a catalogue or from leaflets sent in response to a *reply to the* advertisement.

## Advertising & marketing

## Osborne merger

The Osborne Group has merged three of its subsidiary companies, Osborne BC Public Relations, *MS Surveys* and Promotional Services and Lonsdale Research into a single *company*, Osborne Marketing Communications.

Managing director of the new company is Mr Bruce Clark, previously managing director of Osborne BC Public Relations.

## Glaxo agency move

Following an extensive review of its advertising needs, *Glaxo* Laboratories has moved the advertising responsibility for its pharmaceutical advertising from PLN Partners to Masius, Wynne-Williams & D'Arcy-MacManus.

Patricia Tisdall

## LETTERS TO THE EDITOR

### Recruitment for overseas jobs hit by Finance Act

*From Mr R. E. Aldred*

Sir, Exhorted by Government on one hand to export their services abroad, construction contractors anxious to do so now find themselves severely hampered in recruiting staff to work overseas, by recent taxation changes.

The Finance Act, 1974, presumably intending to close loopholes to tax avoiders has, with typical bureaucratic indifference, exposed the genuine overseas employed worker to the grasping hand of the United Kingdom tax man.

In the construction industry, many overseas employees are specialists accustomed to working for up to nine months or so of the year abroad. In the past, they were taxed on their remittances home. Now they are taxed at United Kingdom rates by the application of PAYE on 75 per cent of their overseas earnings.

Bearing in mind that, reasonably enough, they expect some inducement to work away from home, often in inhospitable and inclement surroundings, this new tax burden is, to say the least, a disincentive.

The contractor with existing commitments abroad can choose between losing his staff due to this new tax burden, or making good the earnings loss and himself losing money. The cost of employing his staff abroad is certainly going to go up and his competitiveness for new work will accordingly go down.

To gain exemption from PAYE an employee must serve a continuous period of 365 days overseas, irrespective of tax years; a reduction in this period to 100 consecutive days overseas without a return visit to the United Kingdom would be reasonable and practicable.

The export of constructional services makes a not inconsiderable contribution to the United Kingdom balance of payments. If Government wishes to maintain and increase this contribution, there is much it can do to encourage an expansion; but an essential requirement of the industry is overseas workers, and this latest discouragement is just one more step backwards which the Government must put right.

Yours faithfully,
ROBERT E. ALDRED,
Chairman,
Taylor Woodrow International,
Western Avenue,
London, W5.

### Too many workers, not enough work

*From Mr W. Grey*

Sir, "The age of full employment is over"—thus the opening words of Peter Jay's epitaph (April 10). Yet the precise nature of the beast whose demise we were invited to mourn was left unexplained.

Could it be that it is not full employment, whatever that may be, but rather over-full employment which is the real villain of Mr Jay's piece, and which has caused, and is likely to cause, "political objectives . . . for a time to override economic objectives"?

One country's definition of full employment moreover is not necessarily another's, and the same country's definition may also change over time. Are we, all of us, then to forswear the full employment objective, not to say commitment, for all time?

By all means let us determine, stick to and, where necessary or possible, raise Mr Jay's "long-run equilibrium level". But let us not kill the beast, which still carries the hopes of many, by a stroke of his eloquent pen.

Yours faithfully,
W. GREY,
12 Arden Road,
Finchley,
London, N3.

### 'Populist policies' and farmers

*From Mr D. K. W. Cox*

Sir, Mr Peter Jay, in his recent appraisal of the Government's renegotiation of our EEC arrangements, mentions, with approval, Mr Peart's successful pressure to reduce farm prices in real terms, and looks forward to a continuance of the process. (United Kingdom prices to farmers are about 75 per cent to 80 per cent of the average in the rest of the Community.)

Does Mr Jay think that food, like oil from an Arab well, gushes forth without inputs? Costs in the farming industry have probably risen more than most in the past two years, having a high energy content.

United Kingdom farmers' incomes were reduced in real terms by some 30 per cent last year, according to figures just released by the Government, and the latest agricultural census shows home production declining.

What possible advantage to this country does Mr Jay see in the inevitable reduction of United Kingdom agriculture to "dog and stick" grazing which must come if the present populist policies are continued?

Yours faithfully,
D. K. W. COX,
Preston, Drewsteignton,
Exeter.

### English ass?

*From Mr R. I. McConnachie*

Sir, In his letter of April 9, Mr Rowberry complains that no one has suggested a solution to the difficulties experienced by sellers of property who have to send out contracts to several purchasers simultaneously, because they do not know which of them is in a position to complete the purchase.

There is a simple remedy, namely to suspend the operation of English law and apply the Scots code. The root of all the trouble is the illogical English concept of an offer "subject to contract".

Delay between the "offer" and the contract produces uncertainty—for both buyer and seller—as well as unlimited opportunities for "gazumping".

A Scotsman's word is his bond, as it was a Roman's 2,000 years ago and is many a European's today. Why not in England?

Yours faithfully,
ROBIN McCONNACHIE,
145 Rosendale Road,
Dulwich, London, SE21.

### Validity of business opinion

*From Mr James Towler*

Sir, History shows that the chairmen of big companies, like politicians, are by no means infallible when it comes to coming up with the right answers. Therefore, while not doubting for one moment the validity of your survey of April 9, on EEC business opinion, its conclusions need to be taken with a pinch of salt.

Take the textile industry chief who felt we would be forced to "return to sackcloth and woad" as an example. He may well be right. Yet it does not alter the fact that, for the second year in succession, the value of imports of textiles into Britain last year from other members of the EEC expanded more quickly than exports to them.

JAMES TOWLER,
25 Moseley Wood Lane,
Cookridge, Leeds.

## THE BUDGET, 1975

PUBLIC SECTOR BORROWING

### Financing requirement an influence on Chancellor

Financial conditions in the 1974-75 fiscal year were overshadowed by the emergence of a huge public sector borrowing requirement. Its implications for the balance between the financial positions of different sectors and for the overseas trade deficit were immense and attracted considerable economic comment.

The coming fiscal year also seems likely to be dominated by the problems of financing the borrowing requirement. After the Budget measures it is expected to amount to £9,055m. Although this is £1,200m less than would have occurred without the Budget changes it is still higher than last year. Moreover, the final figure for the 1974-75 fiscal year has again been revised upwards by £1,300m to £7,602m.

In the March Budget last year, a public sector borrowing requirement of £2,733m was planned, so that the out-turn has proved to be nearly £5,000m higher than the forecast. But these huge increases were not due to measures announced in last year's Budgets, but were mainly attributable to what the National Institute of Economic and Social Research has termed "discretionary intervention".

Corresponding to this large borrowing requirement was a big public sector financial deficit. The two concepts are different because some of the money borrowed by the Government is then lent to the private sector and the result is that the public sector has not incurred a net increase in its financial liabilities. However, the financial deficit planned in November was also much greater than that planned in March and amounted to £4,826m.

The financial deficit in the public sector had to be matched by financial surpluses elsewhere in the economy, in either the overseas sector or the private sector. In practice, the overseas sector made much the most important acquisitions of British Government debt, a situation reflected in the relative stability of the Bank of England's reserves of gold and overseas currency at the same time that the current account deficit was of the order of £3,500m.

What was happening, in effect, was that the Government was obtaining output from abroad and, rather than paying for it immediately, it increased Britain's overseas indebtedness. The private sector in the British economy also, on balance, acquired financial claims on the public sector, but this was a much less significant element in the financing of the overall deficit.

A more important feature of the private sector's financial position was the contrast between the company and personal sectors. Substantial increases in raw material prices, particularly in the price of oil, added to industry's expenditure, while demand conditions were unfavourable. The company sector tended to finance substantial stock appreciation by incurring debt and there was a large company sector financial deficit.

The counterpart to the company sector's deficit was a personal sector surplus. In the first half of the fiscal year the imbalance between the company and personal sectors had been furthered by the "wage explosion" and by some misguided tax changes in the March Budget and the July financial statement, notably the increase in Corporation tax and the reduction in value-added tax.

The November Budget tried to rectify this disparity by easing the impending pressures on company liquidity which would have arisen, without offsetting action, in the tax-paying season. However, as part of the Government's strategy of maintaining demand, the aid to company liquidity came mainly from a greater public sector financial deficit than from an attempt to cut personal sector spending power.

The personal sector's financial position continued, therefore, to be unusually healthy. Most observers felt that individuals had built up more liquidity than necessary and some suggested that there might be a rundown in their bank balances and savings throughout 1975, which would help consumption spending.

This may help to explain the action taken by the Chancellor today to discourage consumer spending. The planned reduction in the public sector financial deficit should also help to restore equilibrium on Britain's international accounts.

**Tim Congdon**

STOCK APPRECIATION

### Tidying up ahead of a more complex plan

One of the main points for the corporate sector that the Chancellor needed to tidy up in this Budget was the future of the tax relief he introduced on stock appreciation last November. This he has done, as expected, by extending last November's proposals for the current year, by the end of which we will probably have a new and more comprehensive scheme for adjusting corporate taxation to mitigate the impact on companies of inflation.

The two additional proposals put by the Chancellor yesterday concern a number of modifications of the present scheme—for instance, the exclusion of land not held for the purpose of constructing buildings for sale—and the extension, as promised in November, of the scheme to unincorporated and smaller businesses which did not previously qualify.

In addition, relief is extended to include professional work in progress.

In these cases the relief will now cover two years to bring it into line with larger companies and, as compensation for not being able to claim the relief until the end of the second year, they will also be allowed to reduce their taxable profit by a further 5 per cent of the amount of the stock relief.

This will be a once-and-for-all bonus and will not affect the level of opening stocks (for tax purposes) for the following year.

The present scheme was brought in last autumn for two reasons. The first was that under present accounting practice companies' profits were being grossly inflated—in paper, rather than cash terms—by the sharp rise in raw materials prices.

Although the inflationary rise in sales proceeds was real enough, the fact that for accounting purposes outgoing stocks were priced only on a first-in first-out basis—as opposed to an actual cost or still more conservative last-in first-out basis—meant that the cost of sales was being artificially held down and paper profits correspondingly boosted.

So not only were companies paying tax on profits they had not yet really made, but they were also having to face a cash liability on what was, partly at least, only a paper profit. And that was hardly desirable in a period when companies' cash resources were under severe pressure.

The way the system works is that a company is allowed to lower its closing stock figure by the equivalent of the rise over the opening stock figure less 10 per cent of its reported trading profit. Taxable profits fall by a corresponding amount.

A point to remember here is that the Chancellor is not saying to companies that they need not pay tax on the appreciation of their stocks. He is in effect, merely deferring tax until such time as the profit is realized. Take, for example, a company that establishes large paper profits in year one when inflation is running at 25 per cent. It may well be that under the present proposals, the company will find itself paying very little tax.

But if in year two the rate of inflation falls away sharply and profits drop sharply in consequence it may well be that the company will still find itself producing a high level of taxable profit because, for tax purposes, the opening balance sheet will have been that much more conservative.

Last November's proposals covering the 1973 tax year (for payment in January, 1975) were estimated to have saved companies £800m. The new proposals for the 1974 tax year (closing in March this year with tax due in January, 1976) are estimated to save the corporate sector £1,300m.

**John Whitmore**

### Wage rates outstrip price rises

PRINCIPAL PAY MOVEMENTS IN THE PIPELINE

| Group | Number | Claim | Offer |
|---|---|---|---|
| Railwaymen | 260,000 | 30-35 per cent | 20 per cent |
| Engineering | 2,000,000 | "substantial" | 30 per cent |
| Power station manual workers | 105,000 | "substantial" | 31 per cent |
| Power engineers | 28,000 | 30 per cent | — |
| Local government white collar | 300,000 | £10 plus 15 per cent | — |
| Local government manual | 500,000 | restoration of differentials | — |
| Provincial printing | 120,000 | — | 32 per cent |
| Bank workers | 130,000 | 20 per cent | — |
| Seamen and officers | 90,000 | — | 20 per cent |

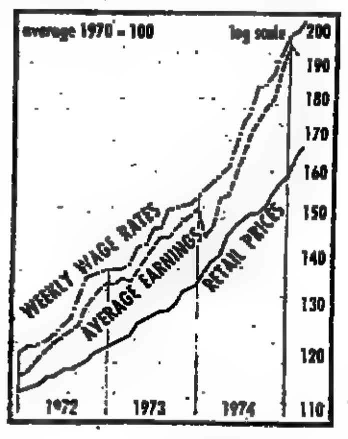
In his Budget speech the Chancellor delivered a homily on the dangers of excessive rises in wages.

"For the last six months or so the main cause of rising prices in Britain has been the scale of wage and salary increases, which were far in excess of what could be justified by the increases in prices and could not possibly be offset by improvements in productivity.

"And whereas last year we were not alone among western countries in having a very high rate of inflation, there is a risk that this year we shall be out on our own, far above the rest", he said.

(The relative movements of prices and earnings during the last three years are shown in the graph below, while the table on the left shows wage claims which are in the pipe-line.)

Pay increases had been running 8 or 9 per cent above price rises, and the Chancellor did not believe that anyone would claim that the TUC guidelines were intended to permit this result.




EXPORTS

### Measures that will ease liquidity problems

In a further effort to encourage exports, the Chancellor yesterday announced more measures to ease the liquidity problems of businessmen selling overseas and increase their productive capacity.

The Export Credits Guarantee Department is to be allowed to guarantee pre-shipment loans to large exporters. This is a measure that will be welcomed by businessmen who have long claimed that the lack of a pre-shipment finance scheme similar to those operating in other industrial countries has been a big deterrent to exporters.

As a government-run department underwriting bank loans to exporters, the ECGD is already able to help secure early payment for businessmen once their goods have been shipped, but financing the production before shipment has rested with the exporter.

In addition, Mr Healey announced that the price code provisions on investment relief would be extended to cover investment for exports.

Amplifying the Chancellor's statement, Mrs Shirley Williams, the Secretary of State for Prices and Consumer Protection, said yesterday afternoon that she proposed to widen the base of the investment relief calculation so that companies can take account of their investment for export when applying for price increases. The investment relief is also being raised from 17½ to 20 per cent.

Under the Price Code, companies are permitted to reflect in their profit margins and prices a proportion of their estimated capital expenditure—in a forward period of 12 months—on new and secondhand plant, machinery and on the construction of industrial buildings.

Prices are permitted to be increased to the extent necessary to raise profit margins by the amount of the relief, now 20 per cent. In future, export investment will be included under these provisions in common with domestic investment.

These measures to help exporters follow hard on the heels of other recent measures. Mr Peter Shore, Secretary of State for Trade, announced only a few weeks ago action to help exporters of capital goods, by protecting them against inflation.

This measure, together with the two measures announced yesterday will be seen as part of a new powerful drive to push up Britain's exports and make the country more competitive in overseas markets.

**Melvyn Westlake**

KRUGERRANDS

### Restrictions on imports in force

Import restriction upon Krugerrands came into force at midnight. In future gold coins minted after 1837, including medallions, can no longer be bought from non-residents except by authorized dealers who can now sell only to non-residents, with the importing subject to individual licensing. The arrangements do not impose any restriction on holding gold coins already in the United Kingdom, so coin collectors need not register nor obtain permits.

The Chancellor said the time had come to stop the drain on foreign exchange which averaged £25m in the first quarter of this year.

In January, Mr Edmund Dell, the Paymaster General, said the Government was keeping the growth of the krugerrand market "under close review". But at that time did not propose taking any immediate restrictive action.

Mr Dell went on to argue that while investment in gold coins was non-productive, it was quite probable that if restrictions were imposed money would instead turn to other possibilities. He added that it would be difficult to enforce any measures designed to curtail hoarding.

The growth of the krugerrand market has been a comparatively recent phenomenon, largely coming into being as investors strove last year to maintain their capital in a time of rapidly rising inflation and falling stock markets.

Overseas sales of the one ounce gold coins by the South African authorities amounted to a mere 21,000 coins in January 1974, but by last December monthly sales were running at 341,000. And during the year it was possible for an investor to have made 70 per cent, assuming he had sold out at the peak on December 27 of £99, against the present level of around £72.

Two major factors influence the price of gold coins, including sovereigns. The first is the price of gold itself and thus the intrinsic value of the metal content. The other is the premium investors are prepared to pay above this, and this can rise fairly sharply when bullion undergoes one of its periodic upward surges.

Although, thanks to the undecided trend in the gold price the premium is now only 3 per cent or so, it has been as high as 18 per cent when demand was brisk and dealers had the market all their way.

In 1974, Britain imported over £160m of gold coin against exports of only £90m—this latter figure containing a sizable, but unquantifiable volume of krugerrands as well as sovereigns.

**Andrew Wilson**

## The Budget arithmetic

PUBLIC SECTOR FINANCIAL SURPLUS AND BORROWING

£ million

| | 1974–75 | | 1975–76 Estimate | |
|---|---|---|---|---|
| | November Budget estimate(¹) | Provisional outturn | Before Budget changes | After Budget changes |
| **TOTAL PUBLIC SECTOR** | | | | |
| Saving(²) | 2,805 | 1,765 | −130 | 1,191 |
| Capital transfers (net) | −134 | −181 | −360 | −360 |
| *Less:* Gross domestic fixed capital formation | −7,036 | −7,039 | −8,173 | −8,173 |
| Increase in value of stocks | −461 | −459 | −224 | −224 |
| Financial deficit | −4,826 | −5,914 | −8,892 | −7,571 |
| Financial transactions: | | | | |
| Increase (−) in assets, etc.(³) | −1,505 | −1,688 | −1,364 | −1,484 |
| Borrowing requirement | 6,331 | 7,602 | 10,256 | 9,055 |
| **CENTRAL GOVERNMENT** | | | | |
| Saving(²) | 598 | −512 | −3,461 | −2,140 |
| Capital transfers (net) | −529 | −448 | −727 | −727 |
| *Less:* Gross domestic fixed capital formation | −1,027 | −960 | −1,219 | −1,219 |
| Increase in value of stocks | −71 | −31 | −37 | −37 |
| Financial deficit | −1,029 | −1,951 | −5,444 | −4,123 |
| Financial transactions: | | | | |
| Net lending to local authorities and public corporations | −2,203 | −2,553 | −2,107 | −2,107 |
| Increase (−) in other assets, etc.(³) | −698 | −605 | −1,477 | −1,597 |
| Borrowing requirement(⁴) | 3,930 | 5,109 | 9,028 | 7,827 |
| **LOCAL AUTHORITIES** | | | | |
| Saving(²) | 660 | 834 | 1,700 | 1,700 |
| Capital transfers (net) | 110 | −6 | 90 | 90 |
| *Less:* Gross domestic fixed capital formation | −3,023 | −3,147 | −3,231 | −3,231 |
| Financial deficit | −2,253 | −2,319 | −1,441 | −1,441 |
| Financial transactions: | | | | |
| Increase (−) in assets, etc.(³) | −341 | −480 | −116 | −116 |
| Borrowing from central government | 1,270 | 1,135 | 1,260 | 1,260 |
| Borrowing from other sources(⁴) | 1,324 | 1,654 | 297 | 297 |
| **PUBLIC CORPORATIONS** | | | | |
| Saving(²) | 1,547 | 1,443 | 1,631 | 1,631 |
| Capital transfers (net) | 285 | 273 | 277 | 277 |
| *Less:* Gross domestic fixed capital formation | −2,986 | −2,932 | −3,728 | −3,728 |
| Increase in value of stocks | −390 | −428 | −187 | −187 |
| Financial deficit | −1,544 | −1,644 | −2,007 | −2,007 |
| Financial transactions: | | | | |
| Increase (−)/Decrease (+) in assets, etc.(³) | −466 | −603 | 229 | 229 |
| Borrowing from central government | 933 | 1,418 | 847 | 847 |
| Borrowing from other sources(⁴) | 1,077 | 829 | 931 | 931 |

(¹) Differences from the figures given in Table 4 of the Supplementary Financial Statement and Budget Report 1974-75 (H.C. 18) reflect change classification.

(²) This is the current surplus or deficit in the current account of the central government and local authorities, and the undistributed income (including additions to interest and tax reserves) in the appropriation account of public corporations. Saving is measured before allowing depreciation and stock appreciation.

(³) Includes unidentified items.

(⁴) Contributions to the public sector borrowing requirement as defined in Financial Statistics.

BY THE FINANCIAL EDITOR

# Erring on the right side

The market had been hoping or a Budget that erred on the iide of toughness rather than political expediency, so there should be no surprise about an nitial reaction that was cautiously favourable. That aid, the market will be keeping a close eye on the performance of sterling, where it remains to be seen if the foreign xchange market will be more mpressed by the Chancellor's ttack on consumption or a rojected public sector borrowng requirement that still merges at just over £9,000m or 1975-76, even after a reducon of some £1,200m resulting rom Mr Healey's proposals hemselves.

The main point, perhaps, is hat the Chancellor has done ust about as much as could be xpected. Attacking consumpon may, as the unions argue, e a waste of resources, but the hancellor has really been left ith no choice but to attack he balance of payments roblem from this angle. xport-led growth is not easily eated against a background international recession and, the Chancellor says, the rospects for such growth are ing to depend on others than rselves reflating their economies—the effects of which are t likely to show through until id-1976 at the earliest. In ort, this Budget is a holding eration—and a fairly tough e—to contain the balance of yments problem until others n provide our growth for us. Meanwhile, that leaves as the ucial question the rate of ge awards and domestically nerated inflation. True, the ter is now boosted by the ancellor's proposals, but the ne of his speech was very ch one which suggested that inordinately high rate of ge awards would inevitably d to fresh measures by the vernment, while, in the meanne, the level of unemployent was to be allowed to rise til the rate of inflation came ck into line with the international average.

Whether or not the Chancel will eventually be forced eat his words remains to be en, and will obviously be a ntinuing cause of anxiety in ck markets. But at least rkets can take considerable nfort from the further recogion of the importance of the porate entity as the pillar the economy, albeit that there no major additional reliefs the corporate sector other n the ones expected. Cernly, some of the specialist ailers are going to suffer, that was almost inevitable. the market as a whole the dget looks to provide reasone support—barring particuly hostile union reaction— eyes will quickly be lookahead to the EEC referenn.

### quidity

## fter the isis

Healey helped fuel the t corporate liquidity crisis ast year by a direct attack n cash flow through the inluction of a surcharge on anced Corporation Tax. So not without irony that by pping it he goes far tods removing whatever sting left in the corporate gripe industry was being starved ash.

he surcharge was, of course, one aspect of the problem. departure, according to lips & Drew, will mean a saving this year of around m, which will be useful but dramatic in the context of a corporate sector deficit running into billions of pounds. But combined with the other measures introduced now and in the November Budget it will mean a major downgrading of estimates of the corporate deficit for 1975. Most important among these was the move, currently extended, to give tax relief on stock appreciation—estimated at the time to be worth £800m to cash flow but almost certainly more in fact. The revival of the stock market as a source of funds has also been a help, as has the creation of Finance For Industry (already committed to lending £100m) and the easing of price controls, now to be further relaxed. As another measure the Chancellor has modestly extended investment incentives.

All this falls into perspective in the light of Phillips & Drew's latest forecasts of the corporate deficit. Last November, when the situation looked to be at its gloomiest, P & D thought the deficit could be as high as £4,700m in 1975, compared with £4,000m plus in 1974. The 1974 shortfall is now reckoned at £4,200m but the deficit for 1975 is predicted to be down to only £2,700m.

That is still a formidable enough figure, but there is plenty of surplus capacity to lend in the banks at the moment and there is no reason to think the sources at industry's disposal will prove unequal to the task. The key variable in the equation, however, is profitability. At the same time that P & D has been downgrading its forecast of the corporate deficit it has also been dropping its expectations of profits, albeit only marginally, and it currently reckons that profits (before tax and depreciation but after profits and tax due abroad) could fall from £12,400m in 1974 to £11,400m in 1975. Should this estimate prove too high the deficit would be that much bigger. In the main, however, the trend is not so worrying as it was and investors may no longer feel the need to be quite so obsessed with cash flow as they did last year.

### Duty increases

## Brewers look more resilient

Worst hit by the duty increases are the whisky distillers, particularly Arthur Bell and Teacher. Both sell well over half their output in the domestic market and at premium prices for their standard brands. The question is to what extent volume sales will now fall after increases last year of 13 per cent and 22 per cent in 1973. The only compensation is that with about 70 per cent being sold through public houses their share of a smaller market should improve.

Bell has already forecast a drop in 1975 pre-tax profits from the £3.02m of last year. That no relief has been granted on the timing of payment on duty, already costing Bell £900,000 annually, is a severe blow with the financing requirements per unit of sales rising a third on a company already heavily borrowed. A decline in profits at Bell to around £2.25m is probable.

But Distillers may escape the worst with around 75 per cent of profits accruing overseas while the group is a beneficiary to a much larger extent from the export stimulus. Domestic duty increase, balanced to some extent by recent increases in export prices, is perhaps equivalent to a year's growth to leave the shares at 116p selling at around 10 times prospective current year earnings.

For the brewers, the outlook is possibly more hopeful except for those with large wine and spirit interests, Allied and to a lesser extent Bass. With heavy pressure on consumer durables, a greater proportion of disposable income could find its way into the pub, but there may be even greater awareness of prices. Here, those brands see selling over 25p could be at risk, particularly Guinness which is already seeing volume falls. The most resilient are likely to prove the regionals such as Boddingtons and Buckleys in South Wales, and among the nationals, Scottish & Newcastle.

Tobacco companies can normally expect to recover lost sales within 12 months of any duty increase. This time the average 7½p for 20 could prove a larger hurdle and for Imperial Group, a brewer as well, the additional working capital requirements may be around £45m, reducing earnings by around 5 per cent to a possible 6p for the current year. Rothmans faces a £5m requirement on this score, but the overseas content is still the more dominant influence, while BAT remain completely unaffected.

### Retailers

## Multi-rate VAT victims

Intimations of a multi-tiered value-added tax system and swingeing rates on electricals and durables have been troubling the retail sector for a number of weeks. Hence there was little surprise at yesterday's budget measures.

Obvious casualties are the specialist chains, such as Curry's, and Dixon Photographic, veterans of many a cyclical downturn as well as some of the discounters such as Comet Radiovision, and, probably hardest hit of all the department stores, whose competitive position is being further eroded in areas like electricals and durables as well as suffering from falling demand in the luxury goods sectors in which they have a large proportion of their sales.

But the optimistic projections for retailers generally in 1975-76 still apply. The shares of both Marks & Spencer, 200p, and British Home Stores at 302p are at their annual peaks, sporting price/earnings ratios of 16 and 19 respectively in the wake of what has been a sales bonanza in the opening months of the year.

Firstly, the multiples, whose merchandise largely escapes yesterday's measures, can look forward to several more buoyant months by courtesy of the large pay increases in the pockets of weekly wage earners.

Secondly, and more importantly, the margin problems that loomed so large in last year's results are over. The 10 per cent cuts to gross reference levels made last year are not likely to be repeated, and, provided internal costs do not move above the monetary increase in turnover, a reasonable increase in earnings might be expected.

For those groups in the firing line, the higher rate VAT tends to enhance the price competitive element, favouring, for instance, the discounters against the department stores, although, with lower demand expected all round that cannot be much of a comfort.

THE BUDGET, 1975

INDUSTRIAL INVESTMENT

# A modest boost for capital spending

A modest, if hardly dramatic, effort to improve the level of industrial investment emerges as one of the principal features of yesterday's Budget statement. The aim is to mitigate the effect on employment and, where jobs are threatened, provide some countervailing measures.

By providing another £50m for retraining displaced workers through the Manpower Services Commission during the next two years, Mr Healey is seeking to buttress the selective aid schemes of existing and proposed industrial legislation. These schemes are to be supplemented by deploying another £100m as a short-term incentive for manufacturers who start capital projects before the end of this year.

Further, it is planned to write reserve powers into the new Employment Protection Bill for possible special payments to employers, working alongside the manpower commission, who defer redundancies for a limited period.

Industry-wide schemes may be introduced to offer selective help for modernization and the ferrous foundry industry has been selected as a case for aid on the lines already operating for wool.

The Government is hoping that further help towards investment may flow from easing the price code in terms of export companies and enterprises wanting to undertake new capital schemes. Meanwhile, about £100m of loans have been granted through the Finance for Industry organization, which has £600m of applications under review.

One black spot will be the situation facing the domestic electrical goods industry, already in some difficulty without the imposition of a 25 per cent VAT rate. Some companies operating short time may now have to declare more people redundant.

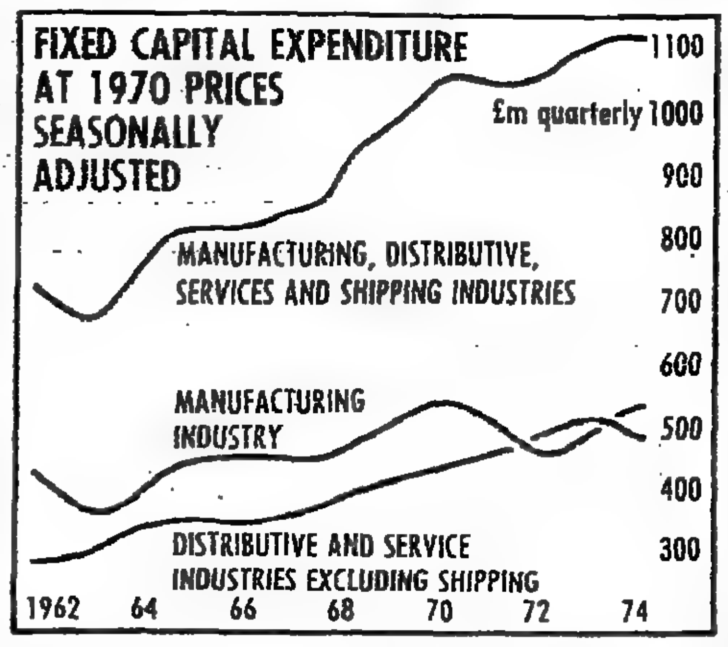
Mr Healey knows well enough that his strategy for protecting jobs in an inflationary situation turns on an improved rate of capital expenditure on new plant and equipment. Yet it is not easy to stimulate spending in such difficult times, when companies remain nervous about their future earnings and the spiralling costs of any kind of development scheme.

There has been much worthy discussion in recent months at the National Economic Development Council and wherever Government meets industrial leaders on the necessity of promoting industrial investment.

Indeed, the perpetual talk carries its own dangers of stifling interest in the problem, which remains of paramount importance to a Government trying to dampen down inflation, but knowing that it is no less vital to be ready for the inevitable upturn towards the years of North Sea oil.

Several things have already been done by the Government to assist manufacturers in the longer term. Nationalized industries, whose spending programmes are massive, are being encouraged to go ahead in line with the recent White Paper on Public Expenditure up to 1979.

This should ripple through to other industries, who will supply many of the materials and equipment needed. At the same time, it is undeniable that a huge sum has been deployed with the Department of Industry for helping the private




sector in various, if controversial ways.

Yet it is also undeniable that the confidence of industry has been shaken not just by inflationary pressures but by the uncertainty it feels about the Government's economic strategy.

Wages and salaries bills are soaring alongside materials, and price restraint remains on a statutory basis. In such circumstances, the urge to raise productivity and to invest in new cost saving schemes has been lessened by more immediate considerations, not least of which have been the decline in new orders, Whitehall intervention and the cautionary attitude of bankers' on borrowings. Slowing down or postponing investment schemes have been an obvious economy to make until the economic situation is clarified.

Industrialists say that the biggest incentive to restoring investment to a satisfactory level has to be positive evidence that the Chancellor is getting somewhere in the containment of inflation. Meanwhile, redundancies and short-time working are industry's response to the measures of last year and the Chancellor's failure to alter the mood.

The question that has to be asked this morning by financial advisers to companies is: Do yesterday's measures provide some compelling evidence that capital can now be committed on a greater scale and effectively serviced in the interim to commissioning of consequential modernization projects? The response is likely to be a weary "No".

The Chancellor took no dramatic new initiative. He made the customary exhortation to invest. His predecessors have made just as vigorous appeals, but the historical record tells its own story.

Over the years 1970 to 1974 manufacturing output rose by only 8 per cent, when the volume of imports of manufactures increased 67 per cent (twice as fast as exports of manufactures). Over the period 1962 to 1972, the value of investment per worker in manufacturing was lower in every year than in every other major competitor country—often one half the average level.

One result has been the continual contraction of the manufacturing sector where real wealth has to be produced and imports offset by exports. In the past four years manufacturing redundancies have averaged about 180,000 a year—and only one in three jobs lost has been replaced by a new one in manufacturing.

Somewhat boldly Mr Anthony Wedgwood Benn has recently called for investment spending in manufacturing to be doubled to £6,000 million a year. At present, the national recoverable depends on a pitiful 4 per cent of national income invested in manufacturing, which has not stopped contraction and is certainly not enough to be rapidly gains when the economy emerges from recession.

Maurice Corina

TAXATION

# A ragbag of measures for plugging loopholes

For some time there have been dire predictions that the weight of direct taxation in Britain is becoming unbearable. Mr Healey has—as expected—done nothing at all to relieve the pressure; on the contrary he has increased it by a further set of loophole-closing provisions, covering a wide range of taxpayers.

The theme, Mr Healey emphasized, was one of fairness, to eliminate "benefits" which for one reason or another have been slipping through the already tightly drawn net. At the higher end of the scale, there is his treatment of scrip dividends.

The use of the scrip dividend goes back a number of years. It was originally designed to help surtax payers. The concept was that a shareholder could receive new shares in a company worth the equivalent of the cash dividend in lieu of the cash itself.

Whereas the tax liability on a cash payment might have been extremely high, the only tax liability on the new scrip was a liability to capital gains tax when the shares were ultimately sold—the shares being treated as having an original nil cost.

Until recently, surprisingly few companies ran such schemes, partly because "gross funds", which had little interest in taking scrip when they could recover income tax payable on dividends, felt that the issue of shares to others would dilute their own interest in a company.

But the advent of Advanced Corporation Tax and, more particularly, last year's temporary acceleration of ACT payments at a time of a growing liquidity crisis in the corporate sector, led an increasing number of companies to offer a scrip alternative.

All these arrangements amount in the Chancellor's view to an option not to pay tax, and are to be fully charged with effect from April 6.

Secondly, companies are to lose the privilege of making "bed and breakfast deals", widely practised during 1974-75, a year in which accrued but unrealized losses on shares have not exactly been rare. The artificiality of a sale and buy back some of the same shares has always seemed offensive in certain quarters.

On the other hand justifications have been put forward. To pay capital gains tax at 30 per cent on a realized gain while securing no relief for an unrealized loss can, it is arguable, be a hardship. That is not the class of argument to commend itself to Mr Healey.

The only crumb of comfort he has been prepared to offer is recognition that gains tax does bear hard on those who hold assets for long periods and he is to review the incidence of the tax during the coming year. Individual investors are left to bed and breakfast—if they wish. Presumably de minimis is the guiding principle here.

Coming as it were down the social taxpayer scale, the Chancellor has begun to move against the benefits in kind procurable from a generous corporate employer. Curiously, he has not directed his fire against chairmen and top management who have been living in fear, but more against minor flaws in the PAYE machinery.

The abuses of "the lump" have been under official onslaught for years now but somehow building workers seem to find new avenues as fast as barricades are thrown up across the old ones. Existing certificates of exemption from the rigours of PAYE are to be withdrawn. Holders of certificates will have to re-apply, and new certificates, which will be proof against forgery are to be introduced.

It was said at one time that the market in such certificates was brisker than in gilts. No doubt this aspect has not escaped the Chancellor's attention. Also the use of private companies as an intermediary between payer and recipient is to be crushed, and tougher policing is promised.

It seems that secretaries engaged via agencies have been, like builders, claiming self-employed status. The beauty of Schedule D is that it gives greater scope for deductible expenses than Schedule E. Elimination of this anomaly might have helped bring the abuse to an end, but that is not Mr Healey's approach. Instead, PAYE is to be applied to temps, eliminating one of the attractions of working on that basis.

Three other kinds of corporate benefits in kind are to be fully taxed as if wages or salaries. Up to now, where an employer provides free medical insurance or vouchers exchangeable for goods or services, the liability to income tax has depended upon whether the recipient's earnings have exceeded £5,000 per annum.

The upper income brackets have been taxed, the lower have escaped. Under the new fairness regime, the lower paid are to be treated no more favourably than their directors and managers at least from April 6, 1976. There's democracy in action for you.

Where what is given by an employer is a suit of clothes, free beer (in crates) or similar useful commodities, the amount taxable in the past has been the resale value, often demonstrably a trivial amount. This is no longer so. The future basis of taxation is to be the cost to the employer, so restoring the balance between cash and kind.

Lastly, holiday stamp schemes—the building industry again—are to be brought directly into the PAYE net.

None of those minor counterattacks sounds as fierce as promised new measures to "encourage" prompt payment of tax. The tactical delay of actual cheque writing to the Collector has often been a method, the Chancellor believes, of opting out of the system for years at a stretch.

There are to be more effective rules for charging interest on delayed payments even of relatively small amounts and for relatively short periods of time. Until now no interest on unpaid tax has been chargeable where the tax amounts to less than £1,000 and the interest to less than £5, or where the delay is less than two months.

Clearly these limits are to be scaled down. Where assessments are disputed, there are to be new rules for securing payments "on account" of the final liability.

The Chancellor mentioned in his speech the pressures upon accountants and businesses, but he might have also paid lip service at least to the pressures upon the Revenue. Delays are commonplace and when they affect repayments of overpaid tax, the taxpayer is to be compensated by some "repayment supplement".

He may also have failed to recognize a different and more important class of pressure, which manifests itself when tax rates rise, even by as little as 2 per cent across the board. In the entrepreneurial sector, farmers and small business proprietors are undoubtedly becoming more preoccupied with the mitigation (and deferment) of their income tax liabilities, on any economic view a wasteful exercise.

Tax disincentives become more and more obvious as each succeeding Chancellor sits down—now twice a year. Corresponding incentives to productivity—personal and corporate—are much less obvious, hidden, in fact, in obscurity. This latest batch of hole-plugs does nothing to help. It is a point made many times before but it is still as true as ever.

Oliver Stanley

# Business Diary: Crown Agents' new broom • Degree honours

le the world at large awaits ouse of Commons statement n Mrs Judith Hart on the re of the Crown Agents the roversial organization itself tinues to reshape its operas.

esterday saw one interesting development. Sidney rne, a senior director of gan Grenfell, the merchant k, is to take up the position director of Finance at the wn Agents on June 2. rne, 56, who is at present paring for what promises to a herculean task by having oliday, joined Morgan Grenimmediately after the war.

t present he heads the k's investment division, ch controls about £400m of ds, as well as occupying a ce on the holding company rd which has involved him Morgan Grenfell's conventiobanking and corporate ance activities.

he choice of a Morgan Granman to bring to the Crown nts the sort of financial ertise clearly needs (the ernment had to pump £85m last year to help it ough the crisis) is not prising. The merchant bank called in by the new Crown ent John Cuckney last ember to advise and train its f and is involved in a joint ort with Cooper Brothers, the rtered accountants.

he Crown Agents' present ance director Norman wins, who stepped into the ition in a caretaker capacity the departure of Alan Challis as it turned out, the not very ch greener pastures of First ional Finance, is being onded to Millbank Technical vices, a Crown Agents subiary. This organizes projects overseas principals, particuly Middle East clients, plying finance and technical ertise.

That, it seems will have its challenges. Work on hand at MTS, £300m in 1974, has expanded to a present load of about £1,000m.

## Prize giving

The search for new sponsorship ideas extends wider and wider. The latest to benefit is the Open University, whose brightest students may now be able to qualify for a cash prize in recognition of their achievements.

The donor is Williams & Glyn's Bank, not a major in the sponsorship leagues but quietly making its mark in the educational field by financing scholarships at the Manchester and London Business Schools. It is now planning to offer a total of £1,500 spread over three years to students at the Open University who graduate with a first class honours degree.

The idea is that the awards should go to those who reach this standard after starting off with fairly lowly formalized education, so it is being restricted to students who were not entitled to any exemptions from their courses. Exemptions are normally granted only to students with several "O" level or "A" level qualifications.

The prizes are to be of 50 each and this year only two students qualify, but as the numbers at the university increase Williams & Glyn's has little doubt that its £1,500 will be fully used.

But we haven't got any more . . .

## Washington NE

At a time when the main retail chains are not exactly falling over themselves to push large new investment into the high streets, several are apparently talking seriously about moving into a 10-year-old new town in the North-east — Washington, south of the Tyne and mid-way between Newcastle and Sunderland.

This is even though the new town, eventually to house 80,000, is still a little below the 50,000 mark, commonly regarded as critical for minimum support of large stores. The town is also in a region with the worst unemployment record in the country, bar Northern Ireland.

However, for one thing employment levels in Washington are much better than, for instance, those a few miles away in Sunderland with its 13 per cent jobless rate. The situation is also better than figures suggest because so many exminers nearing retirement are on the books.

In fact, companies in Washington have to bus some workers into the area.

But the key factor for the high street big names is certainly the success of the central shopping and services area known as The Galleries. With 273,000 square feet of development and so far only one third complete, it is a fully enclosed multi-level affair heated against the north-east's sharp coastal winds.

The 60 or so retail outlets, including a Woolco store, are attracting a big proportion of shoppers from outside the Washington area, especially from Newcastle, Gateshead and Sunderland. There are banks and other service offices, and even a Vaux pub, The Silver Dollar.

The present talks will establish the pattern for The Galleries' second phase, which looks like getting started on schedule in two years.

## Oil caution

The moaners in the oil industry who have captured the headlines over the past few months with their threats of quitting when the conditions for their exploration activities become tougher, are soundly taken to task by that bible of the oil industry the Oil and Gas Journal.

"It will take guts to face the fact that oilmen will never again be able to operate exactly as they once did. The new rules point to less freedom of action and probably fewer opportunities to take the big risk and reap the big reward", the journal says. North Sea operators please note.

# Appointments Vacant also on page 5



LEGAL NOTICES

V. KAYE & CO. Limited

Notice to creditors to submit claims

Notice is hereby given that the creditors of the above named Company, which is being voluntarily wound up, are required on or before the 15th day of May 1975, being the day for that purpose fixed by the undersigned, Ian Douglas Barker Bond, of P.O. Box 207, 128 Queen Victoria Street, London EC4P 4JX, the Liquidator of the said Company, to send their names and addresses and particulars of their debts or claims, and of any security held by them, and the names and addresses of their Solicitors (if any), to the undersigned, and if so required by notice in writing from me, the said Liquidator, are by their Solicitors or personally, to come in and prove their said debts or claims, at such time and place as shall be specified in such notice, or in default thereof they will be excluded from the benefit of any distribution made before such debts are proved, or, as the case may be, from objecting to such distribution.

Dated this 8th day of April, 1975.

I. D. B. BOND, Chartered Accountant, Liquidator.

THE BANKRUPTCY ACTS, 1914 AND 1926. In the Croydon County Court in Bankruptcy No. 63 of 1975. Re MAXWELL PAUL TOWNSEND of 73 Riverpark Gardens, Shortlands Bromley Kent formerly carrying on business as an Insurance Broker under the style of P. and M. Townsend at 3 Randlesdown Road, Bellingham, London SE6.

RECEIVING ORDER made 24 March 1975.

DATE OF ADJUDICATION 24 March 1975.

DATE AND PLACE OF FIRST MEETING Wednesday 30 April 1975 at 10.00 am at Park House, 22 Park Street, Croydon CR9 1TX.

DATE OF PUBLIC EXAMINATION Thursday 26 June 1975 at 10.15 am at County Court, Law Courts, Barclay Road, Croydon.

Note—all debts due to the estate should be paid to me.

Dated 10 April 1975.

R. A. D. COPPER, Official Receiver, Park House, 22 Park Street, Croydon CR9 1TX.

In the Matter of The Companies Acts, 1948 to 1967 and in the Matter of ELY ELECTRICAL COMPANY Limited (In Liquidation).

Notice is hereby given pursuant to Section 299 of The Companies Act, 1948, that a GENERAL MEETING of the MEMBERS of the above-named Company will be held at the Offices of W. H. CORK, GULLY & CO., Chartered Accountants of 19 Eastcheap, London, EC3M 1DA on Monday, the 12th day of May, 1975, at 11.45 a.m. to be followed at 12 noon by a GENERAL MEETING of the CREDITORS [illegible]

[illegible]

NOTICE

All Advertisements are subject to the conditions of acceptance of Times Newspapers Limited, copies of which are available on request.

# FINANCIAL NEWS AND MARKET REPORTS

## Liabilities of Triumph Investment Trust put at over £51m

By Peter Wainwright

Mr Martin Spencer, the partner specializing in insolvency at accountants Stoy Hayward, was yesterday appointed liquidator of Triumph Investment Trust, the failed secondary banking and investment trust group.

At a meeting of Triumph's creditors Mr Norman Saddler, the Receiver, read out a statement from the group's founder and former chairman, Mr Tom Whyte, who stepped down last August to give way to Lord Chelmer.

Mr Whyte drew attention to the terms imposed by the banking lifeboat committee led by the Bank of England. It lent Triumph £33m at the beginning of last year, but required to be repaid in full by the following December. Mr Whyte also spoke of the supporting bankers' inability to agreed on a reconstruction, including a suggested takeover by a Kuwait Bank which Triumph owes £3.8m.

A statement of affairs shows that Triumph failed with net assets of £3.5m and liabilities of just over £51m. Mr Saddler said investors had clearly lost their money and creditors seemed to have lost most of theirs too. The position of the two debenture holders is also unclear. It has to be established whether the debentures were issued when Triumph was already insolvent.

Triumph collapsed last November when the shares were 3p after reporting big losses and write-offs in August. The previous February it reported aid from the lifeboat committee to fight the secondary banking crisis. In November, it was stated that the collapse was mainly due to the difficulty of selling assets on reasonable terms in view of the well known necessity of disposing of them.

## Cosalt surges over £1m in spite of Orbit provision

Topping the proceding year's profits in the first six months with a 91 per cent increase, Cosalt, ships' chandlery, refrigeration, air conditioning and caravans, reflected buoyant demand through the full term to December 29 and passed the £1m mark for the first time. Pre-tax profit expanded 74 per cent to £1.2m with chandlery and fishing gear doing particularly well. Turnover, including exports up from £2.4m to £3.4m, rose from £8.3m to £11.6m. Earnings per share, undiluted, rose from 8.45p to 12.84p and, diluted, from 7.47p to 10.83p.

The one blot on proceedings was Orbit Holdings. In addition to post-acquisition losses of £71,000, some £679,000 has been provided from reserves, and which includes £360,000 to cover actual and potential losses in the corporate finance division. No new business is being undertaken. The finance and banking side, however, made a profit of £64,000 and continues profitably.

Chandlery and fishing gear turned in £7.4m against £5.6m to turnover, refrigeration and air conditioning £903,000 (£649,000), caravans £3.1m (£2.1m). Contributions to profit were £1.36m (£698,000), £54,000 (£1,000) and £161,000 (£118,000), respectively.

The year's payment in turn is raised from an adjusted 3.07p to 3.46p.

## Zenith back to health as trading picks up


Sir George Farmer, chairman of Zenith Carburetter.

Following a return to trading profits in the second half of 1974, the Zenith Carburetter group has hoisted its taxable profits from £166,000 to £411,000 on turnover up from £6.05m to £7.4m.

The group ran into trouble in the second half of 1973 (a loss of £27,000 was returned for the period) partly because it could not recover its own increasing costs by raising prices. The depression continued into 1974, but the second half produced a profit of £350,000 before tax.

Trading profits for the year are £69,000, against a loss of £163,000. Earnings a share are 4.5p, against 1.8p, while shareholders will get a 3.9p dividend (2.61p) on net profits of £263,000 compared with £107,000.

The dividend is increased from 2.57p to 3.04p.

The board confirms its confidence in future trading prospects. Lower raw skin prices have aided not only the group but also the industry as a whole. Worldwide demand remains strong for goods supplied by the group.

### Two contractors are optimistic

Bravely the Leonard Fairclough contracting group views 1975 with "considerable confidence", as the rise in the shares yesterday testified. Mr Oswald Davies, chairman says they are pursuing further large overseas opportunities, working in conjunction with others.

The serious trading position of the newly-acquired Sir Lindsay Parkinson is being dealt with and a substantial provision has been made on a pre-acquisition basis for future losses. There should be a big improvement at Parkinson with a major contribution to profits this year.

In similar vein, Mr R. H. Gane, head of George Wimpey, says his company's broad base of activities is very strong for facing the challenge of 1975. Despite record capital spending, Wimpey had £41m of cash and bank balances at December 31.

### Argentine Southern in £2.4m takeover talks

Reporting a month ago another record year, pre-tax profit up from £525,000 to £610,000, Argentine Southern Land, cattle and sheep breeders, announce that takeover discussions are proceeding which may lead to an offer for the entire equity at a price of 60p cash per stock unit. This would place a total value on ASL of some £2.4m. Before the news the shares stood at 35p. Barings, for ASL, promise a further statement shortly.

### Interim setback at Change Wares

Although the interim results of Change Wares are better than were expected, taxable profits are down from a record £246,000 to £183,000, on sales of £4.97m, against £5m. Earnings a share are 3.2p, against 4.3p.

The sales decline reflects the slowing down of the economy, but a major problem was the French subsidiary which made a large trading loss.

### Jessel unit opens

Demerara Co Holdings, a subsidiary of Jessel Securities, says it has started talks with the government of Guyana on the sale of its interests in that country. Sir Peter Rawlinson will lead the negotiating team and will return to Guyana shortly.

### Garnar Scotblair

Another record year has been enjoyed by the Garnar Scotblair tanning and leather group, with its taxable profits for 1974 rising from £462,000 to £541,000.

### Ultramar's latent profit strength

Ultramar is one of the few international oil companies expecting its earnings to be at least maintained, and possibly increased, this year. This is because of its flexibility on crude oil trading coupled with guaranteed outlets for product sales in Canada and elsewhere.

In his annual report to shareholders, Mr Campbell Nelson, chairman, expects last year's "good progress to continue throughout this year and beyond. Later we shall have the benefit of the Badak gas condensate field (Indonesia) coming into production which will give us a new important contribution to our profits."

### Bowring joins Saudi insurance venture

C. T. Bowring has taken a small stake in a new insurance company, Red Sea Insurance, formed to underwrite Saudi Arabian business. Capital is 13 million riyals (about £1.5m), of which 50 per cent is paid up.

W. A. TYZACK

In half year to December 31 taxable profit £223,000 (£114,000); earnings a share 3.5p (1.8p); dividend 0.74p (0.63p).

DAWNAY DAY GROUP

Offer for Winton Trust accepted by holders of 99 per cent of 3.85 per cent preference and 83.26 per cent of 4.9 per cent preference and is unconditional.

UNOCHROME INT

Jorehaut Holdings has acquired 1.8 million shares (10.7 per cent) of equity.

BENFIELD & LOXLEY

Consideration for proposed takeover of WW Development Design is £30,000 cash, 60,000 ordinary shares, and £30,000 of 10 per cent loan notes.

NU-SWIFT INDUSTRIES

Group's current order intake at home and abroad is not as buoyant as board would like, and production targets have been cut back.

XEROX CORPN

First quarter profits are up from $78.3m to $82.5m on sales of $967m ($803m).

JAMES WARREN

Chairman says major sources of loss-making on food side have been eliminated.

AUSTRIAN MARK LOAN

Austria plans DM100m (£2.5m) loan with 8½ per cent coupon and 12-year life. Westdeutsche Landesbank Girozentrale, issuing consortium leader, says redemption will start after two years, issue price will be set later.—Reuter.

## Stock markets

## A cautious approval

The stock market traded nervously ahead of the Budget speech which was greeted with a cautious approval, tinged with resignation where the consumer share sections were concerned. Industrial shares responded to the abolition of the ACT surcharge, and City opinion responded favourably to the Chancellor's strong words on wage inflation. Higher revenue impositions on tobacco, drink and luxury items had been discounted and brought only small falls in the shares concerned.

The *FT* index, unchanged when dealers left the Stock Exchange to listen to the speech, climbed 5.2 to 305.4 as the market digested the news.

*Shares in BP firmed after news of a joint tanker management deal with National Iranian Oil. The move also helped Burmah Oil, whose prospects would benefit sharply from any favourable developments in the tanker shipping world.*

The rise was restricted to leading stocks, which topped off in the final minutes. *The Times* index, which includes a wide range of second line issues, closed 0.3 off at 121.72.

Exporting companies were favoured towards the close, although there was some doubt about the precise implications of price help for overseas earners. Courtaulds closed 2p up at 114p (after 115p) and Unilever 7½p up at 351½p.

Other leaders to gain ground after 3.30 pm included ICI, 2p higher at 226p (after 229p), GKN 6p up at 218p (after 223p) and Tube Investments 10p up at 230p (after 234p).

Increased excise duty on cigarettes had been largely discounted, but shares in Bats fell 7p to 297p. There was some selling of Imperial Group (finally 2p off at 58p) on the view that the group's range of products in the consumer range will be under pressure.

Breweries, already easier as the bear squeeze faded, were uncomfortable as the market received the news of substantially higher charges on whisky and beer. Distillers lost 6p to 116p, Allied Breweries 2p to 58p and Bass Charrington 2p to 86p. But the market was taking the view that only the whisky price rise was beyond expectations.

Thorn Electrical reversed from 153p to 144p, a net 8p down on the day, after the news of higher VAT charges on consumer electricals. But in the stores, Boots held firm at 186p, as did Marks & Spencer (202p) and Debenhams (69p). The view was that the stores shares have discounted the worst. Food shares were pleased that there was no higher tax on petrol—a major cost—and closed on a firmer trend. The exception was Cadbury Schweppes, easier ahead of trading results, due tomorrow.

Richards & Wallington and H. Boot improved after disclosing results, and press review helped Booker McConnell and Birmingham Mint. With the bid still undecided, shares in Midland-Yorkshire improved to 387p.

Financial shares with little in the Budget to affect them, closed on a dull note. Properties, too, were happy to be left out of the excitement.

Oils were firmer, with Ultramar a good spot. But British Borneo fell back, in reflection of the loss on its holdings of gold shares. Gold shares themselvees remained out of favour, although a steadier trend apeared in mid afternoon, this section was largely ignored during late dealings.

*With results now in sight, shares in Hambros weakened. The market is nervous regarding the group's exposure in shipping insurance—particularly in super tankers.*

Equity turnover on April 14 was £68.7m (14,480 bargains). Active stocks yesterday, according to Exchange Telegraph, were Glaxo, Tubes new, ICI, Burmah Oil, Courtaulds, British Home Stores, Beechams, Commercial Union and Unilever.

Gilts were quiet in advance of the Budget speech. The market tended to take a cautious view during the day and modest price falls were occasionally featured.

Dealers' initial reactions to the Budget were cautious. For some time it was not clear what the public sector borrowing requirement would be and concern was expressed that it would be still higher than in the last fiscal year. The general expectation is, therefore, that prices will be marked down at the opening today.

### Latest dividends

All dividends in new pence or appropriate currencies

| Company (and par values) | | Ord div | Year ago | Pay date | Year's total | Prev year |
|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|
| Change Wares (10p) | Int | 1.3 | 1.3 | 14/5 | — | 4.67 |
| Cosalt (25p) | Fin | 1.97 | 2.13 | — | 3.46 | 3.98† |
| Garnar Scotblair (25p) | Fin | 1.66 | 1.45 | 10/6 | 3.04 | 2.57 |
| Gaskell (Bacup) (20p) | Fin | 3.98 | 3.98 | 23/5 | 6.94 | 6.61 |
| Hall Bros Steam (£1) | Int | 5.38 | 4.18 | 25/4 | 7.99 | 6.68 |
| Mono Containers (25p) | Fin | 1.12 | 1.3 | — | 2.98 | 2.83 |
| W. A. Tyzack (25p) | Int | 0.74 | 0.63 | — | — | 2.36 |
| Zenith Carb (50p) | | 3.9 | 2.61 | — | 3.9 | 2.61 |

† Adjusted for scrip.

### Poorer quarter for Gold Fields mines

Gold Fields group mines in their March quarter showed the same decline profitability experienced by the Anglo American group with bullion receipts being well below expectations. It would appear that premium receipts arising from Krugerrand sales have not been included in revenue accounts for groups which have made announcements so far.

Working profits R000's

| | Mar | Dec | Sept |
|---|---|---|---|
| Doornfontein | 6,697 | 10,113 | 8,473 |
| East Drie | 12,737 | 13,757 | 10,747 |
| Kloof | 7,768 | 8,436 | 9,290 |
| Libanon | 4,530 | 9,520 | 4,688 |
| Venterspost | 850 | 3,752 | 2,584 |
| Vlakfontein | 827 | 1,576 | 901 |
| West Drie | 44,067 | 61,917 | 40,352 |

In the General Mining group, labour shortages played the greatest part in the decline in profits of the major mines.

Working profits R000's

| | Mar | Dec | Sept |
|---|---|---|---|
| Buffels | 11,987 | 14,185 | 11,360 |
| S Roode | 29 | 452 | 153 |
| Stilfontein | 3,367 | 3,991 | 3,188 |
| W Rand Cons | 350 | (364) | (22) |

### AKZO weighed down by fibres losses

Mr G. Kraijenhoff, chairman of AKZO, the Dutch international artificial fibres and chemicals group, said in Amsterdam yesterday that results so far this year would show no improvement compared with the last quarter of 1974. In that period the group incurred an operating loss of 113m florins (£19.48m) but, helped by tax refund relating to previous years, there was a net profit of 1m florins.

Group results for the whole of 1975 will be heavily depressed by substantial undercapacity, operational losses being incurred by most of its chemical fibres companies.

In 1974, AKZO earned a net 380m florins (291m) including 110m florins (10m) net stock profits.

AKZO is aiming at a more evenly balanced distribution of products over its three main divisions and reducing the relative share of the fibres sector, which in 1974 amounted to 43 per cent of the total group sales.

### Business appointments

## Dutton-Forshaw founder to be group's first president

Mr Richard Dutton-Forshaw, founder of the Dutton-Forshaw Group, is to become the company's first president. He relinquishes the chairmanship of the group and is succeeded by Ronald Hockin, the deputy chairman. Lt-Col Charles Gray, managing director, takes on the additional responsibility of deputy chairman.

On June 2 Mr Norman Hewins will leave his position as director of finance of the Crown Agents on being seconded to Millbank Technical Services, a wholly-owned subsidiary of the Crown Agents. He will remain a director of the Crown Agents' executive board. Mr Hewins will be succeeded as director of finance by Mr. S. A. W. Eburne who will also become a member of the Crown Agents' executive board.

Mr A. M. Robb has been promoted to the post of group financial controller of P & O. He will be succeeded as financial controller of the P & O shipping division by Mr J. F. Cook.

Mr F. H. N. Walker has retired from the board of Scottish Widows' Fund and Life Assurance Society and Mr T. M. Springbett has been made a director.

Mr G. D. Hay has resigned from the board of Allied Polymer Group.

Mr Denis Call has become a director of Pilkington Brothers and chairman-designate of the Optical Divisional Board.

Mr G. S. Sutcliffe will retire from the board of Turner and Newall on June 30 and Mr A. Russell will not seek reappointment at the annual meeting.

Mr D. A. S. White has been elected to the board of Brighton and Hove Stadium.

Mr Anthony Bennett has been appointed chairman of Andrewartha, a subsidiary of Pilkington.

Mr P. F. Orchard has joined the board of Marryat Group as a non-executive director.

Mr A. J. Buckley has been made a director of General and Commercial Investment Trust.

Mr R. H. Elworthy is joining the board of Associated Leisure as finance director with effect from April 21. Sir Keith Freeman has resigned from the board.

Mr Robert J. Maisonpierre, managing director of Conoco, has been elected to the additional position of chairman. He succeeds Mr W. E. K. Grisewood who has resigned.

Mr R. J. Smith has been nominated for directorship by the John Lewis Partnership's central council. A former nominee of the council, Mr E. H. Price, has resigned his directorship.

Mr C. D. Morpeth has been appointed to the board of Thomas C. Keay with effect from May 1.

Mr Freddie Gray has joined the board of Technicolor Visual Systems.

Mr R. F. Lee has become a director of Mono Pumps. Mr Lee also assumes the title of sales director, Mono Group pump division.

Mr R. L. Hancher, deputy managing director of Carron Company and Mr W. Morrison, sales and marketing director of Tower Housewares have joined the management committee of the Vitreous Enamel Development Council.

Lady Vavasour has joined Mannering Advertising as director of the Mannering public affairs department.

# FINANCIAL NEWS AND MARKET REPORTS

## Commodities

## Foreign Exchange

The pound rallied sharply on the foreign exchanges in late trading yesterday following a more severe Budget than anticipated, dealers said.

Sterling's trade-weighted depreciation against the major currencies recovered from its all-time 22.1 per cent "low", to close at 22.0 per cent, while the pound closed against the dollar at \$2.3675, up a net 120 points.

Dealers said sterling firmed sharply following the Budget news that the United Kingdom public-sector borrowing requirement will be cut by more than £1,000m in 1975-76.

Gold fell by a further \$3 an ounce, to \$164.00.

## Spot Position of Sterling

| | Market rates (day's range) April 15 | Market rates (close) April 15 |
|---|---|---|
| New York | \$2.3545-3680 | \$2.3670-3680 |
| Montreal | \$2.3610-3800 | \$2.3780-3790 |
| Amsterdam | 5.74-77fl | 5.75½-76½fl |
| Brussels | 83.30-80f | 83.60-80f |
| Copenhagen | 13.10-15k | 13.14-15k |
| Frankfurt | 5.63-66m | 5.65-65½m |
| Lisbon | 58.10-70e | 58.40-60e |
| Madrid | 132.80-133.60p | 133.45-65p |
| Milan | 1498-1508lr | 1504-06lr |
| Oslo | 11.78-83k | 11.83½-84½k |
| Paris | 9.89-95f | 9.93½-94½f |
| Stockholm | 9.41½-45½k | 9.44-45k |
| Tokyo | 683-90y | 688-90y |
| Vienna | 39.90-40.20sch | 40.00-20sch |
| Zurich | 6.04-08f | 6.07½-08½f |

Effective depreciation since Dec 21, 1971 was 22.1 to 22.0 per cent.

## Forward Levels

| | 1 month | 3 months |
|---|---|---|
| New York | 1.05-95c prem | 2.95-2.85c prem |
| Montreal | 1.00-90c prem | 3.10-3.00c prem |
| Amsterdam | 3½-2½c prem | 9½-8½c prem |
| Brussels | 35-5c prem | 80-60c prem |
| Copenhagen | 1ore prem-3ore disc | 2ore prem-1ore disc |
| Frankfurt | 4-3pf prem | 11½-10½pf prem |
| Lisbon | 80c prem-50c disc | 130c prem-40c disc |
| Milan | par-3lr disc | 3-8lr disc |
| Oslo | par-3ore disc | par-3ore disc |
| Paris | 1-3c disc | 3c prem-par |
| Stockholm | 2ore prem-par | 3½-1½ore prem |
| Vienna | 3gro prem-par | 65-35gro prem |
| Zurich | 4½-3½c prem | 11½-10½c prem |

Canadian dollar rate (against US dollar), \$0.9983-85.

Eurodollar deposits (%) calls, 5½-6½; seven days, 5½-5¾; one month, 5¾-6; three months, [illegible]

## Gold

Gold fixed am, \$164.05 (an ounce); pm, \$164.00.

Krugerrand (per coin): [illegible]

Sovereigns (new): [illegible]

## Recent Issues

[illegible]

## Issues & Loans

### Unigate gets its £12m easily

The £12.5m rights issue by Unigate has obtained a 70 per cent acceptance from shareholders. This is rather below the level of acceptances seen by several rights operators recently, but the shares which were not taken up have been sold with ease in the market at a premium; the proceeds will be distributed to shareholders.

Following the rights offer, the basis of conversion of the 6½ per cent convertible loan stock has been adjusted to one ordinary for every 103.75p of loan stock.

### Western banks may rescue Pertamina

New York, April 15.—Indonesia's central bank has begun negotiations to raise a reported \$300m (£130m) in funds from American and European banks to refund short-term debts of Pertamina, the big state-owned oil company which earlier this year ran into financing problems.

Morgan Guaranty Trust confirmed that it had been asked by the Bank of Indonesia to form an initial syndicate of bank lenders.

Banking sources in Singapore said that SG Warburg, Kuhn Loeb and Lazard Frères which are advising the Bank of Indonesia would approach bankers before June to negotiate on Indonesia's behalf for a \$1,000m credit. This amount might be split into three syndications.—AP-Dow Jones.

### Kuwait lends to Volvo

A \$6m (£2.5m) bond issue is being made by Volvo, the Swedish motor group. The 10-year bonds, offering 9¾ per cent interest, will be placed mainly in Kuwait. Kuwait International Investment Company and Merrill Lynch, Pierce Fenner and Smith Securities (underwriters) are managers.

Application has been made for a listing on the London Stock Exchange.—Reuter.

### Yearling rate hardens

The coupon on this week's batch of yearling bonds has been raised one eighth of 1 per cent to 11⅜ per cent, but the issue price is held at par. The issues include several for £1m or over—Cumbria and Ealing for £1.5m and Dudley and Croydon for £1m.

## Eurobond prices (midday indicators)

[illegible]

## EURODOLLAR NOTE ISSUE

Enso Gutzeit, Finnish pulp and paper group, intends floating a \$20m, seven-year note issue carrying coupon of 9¾ per cent through syndicate led by Kredietbank SA Luxembourgeoise. Notes will be guaranteed by Finnish government.—AP-DJ.

## Discount market

There was a shortage of credit in the discount market yesterday. The Bank of England gave a moderate amount of help to the houses by purchasing Treasury bills, with some £20-50m involved.

Rates for overnight secured call loans closed at 7-8 per cent, down from an opening of 8¼ to 8½ per cent, and a mid-session range of 8½ to 9 per cent.

## Money Market Rates

Bank of England Minimum Lending Rate 10%
(Last changed 21/3/75)
Clearing Banks Base Rate 10¼-10½%
Discount Mkt Loans %
Overnight: Open 9 Close 8½
Week Fixed: 8¾-8⅞

Treasury Bills (Dis%)

| Buying | | Selling | |
|---|---|---|---|
| 2 months | 9⅝ | 2 months | 9⅝ |
| 3 months | 9⅝ | 3 months | 9⅝ |

Prime Bank Bills (Dis%) / Trades (Dis%)

| | | | |
|---|---|---|---|
| 2 months | 9⅞-9¾ | 3 months | 11 |
| 3 months | 9⅞-9¾ | 4 months | 11¼ |
| 4 months | 10-9⅞ | 6 months | 11½ |
| 6 months | 9⅞-9¾ | | |

Local Authority Bonds

| | | | |
|---|---|---|---|
| 1 month | 10½-10 | 7 months | 11½-11 |
| 2 months | 10½-10 | 8 months | 11½-11 |
| 3 months | 10½-10 | 9 months | 11½-11 |
| 4 months | 10½-10 | 10 months | 11½-11 |
| 5 months | 10½-10 | 11 months | 11½-11 |
| 6 months | 10½-10 | 12 months | 11½-11 |

Secondary Mkt. ECD Rates (%)

[illegible]

Local Authority Market (%)

| | | | |
|---|---|---|---|
| 2 days | 9¼ | 3 months | 9⅝ |
| 7 days | 9 | 6 months | 9¾-10 |
| 1 month | 9¼ | 1 year | 11¼ |

Interbank Market (%)

| | | | |
|---|---|---|---|
| Overnight | Open 8¾ | Close 9 | |
| 1 week | 9-8¾ | 6 months | 10¼-10 |
| 1 month | 9⅛-9 | 9 months | 10⅛ |
| 3 months | 9⅝-9½ | 12 months | 10¼ |

First Class Finance Houses (Mkt. Rate %)
3 months 10 6 months 10⅛

Finance House Base Rate 11¼%

## Bank Base Rates

| | |
|---|---|
| ... Bank .. | 10½% |
| ...e & Co .. | *10½% |
| ...Bank .... | 10½% |
| ... Bank .. | 10½% |
| ...estminster | 10½% |
| ... Trust .. | 12% |
| ...tury Bank | 11½% |
| ...s & Glyn's | 10½% |

... deposits on sums of ... and under 7½%, up ...5,000 7¾%, over ... 8½%.



## Wall Street

New York, April 15.—Buyers predominated in heavy turnover on the New York stock market today, absorbing offers from profit-takers.

The Dow Jones industrial average ended the session with a gain of 8.13 points to 815.08. It was ahead more than 10 points at its high for the day. Although the index showed a gain throughout the session, it varied widely on the upside.

Advancing issues outperformed declines by about 805 to 605. Volume totalled 29,620,000 shares compared with about 25,800,000 yesterday.

Brokers said continued buying was encouraged by the government report yesterday of a sharp decline in United States business inventories in February. They said investors were anticipating an eventual increase in production when inventories had been sufficiently decreased.

They also said buying was encouraged by several economists' forecasts of further cuts in United States short-term interest rates.

Analysts added that the undercurrent of profit-taking was inspired by steep gains in the Dow Jones industrial average last week and yesterday.

A block of 190,500 shares of Leaseway Transportation traded at 23½. The issue closed at 23⅛ off ⅛.

## Gold dips by \$1.60

New York, April 15.—GOLD futures closed lower in moderate New York and Chicago trading, but final quotes were well above opening lows. On the Comex, all months fell \$1.60 below overnight levels, except the spot contract which declined \$1.90 to \$163.60. May 1975 ended at \$165.50 and April 1976 at \$173.50. IMM losses ranged from a minor few cents in June 1975, which closed at \$164.80-\$165.00 to \$1.80 in March at 175.70. NY COMEX. April, \$163.60; May, \$165.50; June, \$164.60; Aug, \$166.70; Oct, \$168.80; Dec, \$170.60; Feb, \$175.10; April, \$173.50; June, \$177.50; Aug, \$179.70. CHICAGO IMM.—April, [illegible]

Camadian Prices

[illegible]

## Authorized Units, Insurance & Offshore Funds

Authorised Unit Trusts

Insurance Bonds and Funds

Offshore and International Funds

[illegible]

Stock Exchange Prices

# A favourable reaction

ACCOUNT DAYS: Dealings Began, April 7. Dealings End, April 18. § Contango Day, April 21. Settlement Day, April 29.
§ Forward bargains are permitted on two previous days.



## BRITISH FUNDS

## COMMONWEALTH AND FOREIGN

## LOCAL AUTHORITIES

## FOREIGN STOCKS

## DOLLAR STOCKS

## BANKS AND DISCOUNTS

## BREWERIES AND DISTILLERIES

## COMMERCIAL AND INDUSTRIAL

A — B

C — E

F — H

I — L

M — N

O — S

T — Z

## FINANCIAL TRUSTS

## INSURANCE

## INVESTMENT TRUSTS

## SHIPPING

## MINES

## OIL

## PROPERTY

## RUBBER

## TEA

## MISCELLANEOUS

| | | | | | | |
|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|
| 20 | 5 | Antofagasta | £10 | .. | .. | .. |
| 40 | 12 | Calcutta Elec | 20 | .. | .. | .. |
| 50 | 34 | N Surrey W 7% | £43 | .. | 700 | 16.3 |
| 39½ | 29½ | Essex Wtr 5% | £32 | .. | 500 | 15.6 |
| 202 | 46 | Felixstowe Dock | 74 | .. | 9.7 | 13.1 |
| 322½ | 100 | Imp Cont Gas | 283 | +10 | 10.2 | 3.6 |
| 430 | 110 | LFT Hldgs | 125 | .. | 3.1 | 2.3 |
| 34½ | 25 | Mid Kent Wtr | £32 | .. | 500 | 15.6 |
| 132 | 39 | Milford Docks | 74 | .. | .. | .. |
| 58 | 58 | Nigerian Elec | 73 | .. | 11.8 | 16.2 |
| 385 | 220 | Perak Rvr Hydro | 308 | −5 | 24.6 | 8.0 |
| 35½ | 26 | Sunderlnd Wtr | £31 | .. | 500 | 16.1 |

* Adjusted for tax changes. a Ex dividend. a Ex all. f Forecast dividend. e Corrected price. e Interim payment passed. f Price at suspension. g Dividend and yield exclude a special payment. h Bid for company. i Pre-merger figures. n Forecast earnings. p Ex capital distribution. r Ex rights. s Ex scrip or share split. t Tax free. y Price adj for late dealings. .. No significant data

## THE TIMES SHARE INDICES

The Times Share Indices for 15.04.75 (base date June 2, 1964 original base date June 2, 1950):—

| | Index No. Latest | Div. Yield % | Earnings Yield % | Index No. Previous |
|---|---|---|---|---|
| The Times Industrial Share Index | 121.72 | 7.54 | 15.66 | 122.02 |
| Largest Coys. | 120.47 | 7.30 | 15.71 | 120.80 |
| Smaller Coys. | 126.73 | 8.03 | 15.50 | 125.67 |
| Capital Goods | 125.66 | 7.80 | 16.46 | 125.34 |
| Consumer Goods | 140.57 | 7.41 | 14.03 | 141.92 |
| Store Shares | 112.05 | 6.14 | 8.82 | 111.96 |
| Largest financial shares | 108.04 | 6.08 | — | 108.56 |
| Largest financial and industrial shares | 127.40 | 7.14 | — | 127.08 |
| Commodity shares | 121.30 | 6.69 | 36.54 | 120.22 |
| Gold Mining shares | 802.43 | 5.38 | 9.00 | 803.07 |
| Industrial debenture stocks | 76.94 | 8.00* | — | 76.94 |
| Industrial preference stocks | 40.11 | 14.48* | — | 40.11 |
| 3½% War Loan | 29⅝ | 14.11* | — | 29⅝ |

A record of The Times Industrial Share Indices is given below:—

| | High | | Low | |
|---|---|---|---|---|
| All-time | 196.47 | (15.08.72) | 60.28 | (12.12.74) |
| 1975 | 125.08 | (07.03.75) | 61.42 | (06.01.75) |
| 1974 | 136.18 | (20.02.74) | 62.18 | (12.12.74) |
| 1973 | 189.33 | (12.01.73) | 130.89 | (14.12.73) |
| 1972 | 196.47 | (15.08.72) | 174.46 | (10.01.72) |
| 1971 | 174.77 | (31.12.71) | 122.33 | (02.03.71) |
| 1970 | 145.75 | (14.01.70) | 110.76 | (26.05.70) |

* Flat interest yield.

v Report April 15 1975 Court of Appeal

# ouse bought for purposes that failed

ss v Rawnsley
Lord Denning, Master of
olls, Lord Justice Browne
r John Pennycuick

policy of the law is to facili-
e severance of joint tenan-
Such a tenancy can be
d by an agreement by one
tenant to sever her share,
gh the agreement may not
cifically enforceable and is
uently repudiated.

Court of Appeal dismissed
peal by the defendant, Mrs
Rawnsley, of Downton
, Streatham, London, from
dgment of Judge Granville
declaring that a freehold
g house in Queen's Road,
m Cross, was held by her
rust for the plaintiff, Mrs
a Rose Burgess, daughter
ministratrix of Mr Albert
Honick, deceased, and her
equal shares.

anuary 23, 1967, the house,
h Mr Honick was living as
t, was conveyed into the
ames of himself and Mrs
y "as joint tenants". The
held that the conveyance
ken in joint names "in
plation by the deceased
e house would be the
nial home".
to appeal to the House of
as refused.
K. Levy for Mrs Rawns-
J. F. Mummery for the

MASTER OF THE ROLLS
at at Whitsun, 1966, Mr
a widower of 63, went
ripture rally in Trafalgar
Mrs Rawnsley, a widow
t 60, also went. He intro-
imself. He was not much
at. "He looked like a
she said; "he had been
up fag-ends." However,
hanged addresses.
lay Mr Honick turned up
ouse in Streatham with a
a rose wrapped in news-
or her. Their friendship
ice. She said that she was
him. She smartened him
better clothes and went
use. They exchanged love

months later Mr Honick
opportunity of buying the
Queen's Road, of which
the tenant. He told Mrs
that the owner wanted
e said that she would go
es. She would have the
t, he the lower flat.
ember 2, 1966, a contract
ed by which the owner
o sell the house to Mr
or £850. He paid the de-
nd later instructed the
to have the house con-
o the joint names of him-
Mrs Rawnsley. The judge
t the reason for the house
joint names was because
ly believed he was going
Mrs Rawnsley and that
the matrimonial home".
was clear that she was
led to marry him. The
cepted her evidence that
mentioned marriage to
that she never contem-
arriage. She was minded
n the purchase so as to
lace of her own, the up-
t, while he occupied the
e.
uary 23, 1967, the con-
vas executed to them both
hasers in fee simple" to
oon trust for themselves
tenants". Mrs Rawnsley
for her half-share of
ase price.
expectations, however,
fulfilled. Mr Honick's
matrimony failed. She
t marry him. Her hopes
pstairs flat failed. He
t let her have it. But
ined good friends.
y, 1968, being dis-
in his hopes of mar-
Honick wanted Mrs
to sell her share in the
came to an agreement
as he thought, to buy
50 and told his solici-
raw up the necessary
solicitor wrote to Mrs
who went to see him
hat she was not willing
to sell. She was not satisfied with £750; she wanted £1,000. From that time things went on as before; he in his house and she in hers. He paid all the rates and outgoings of the Queen's Road house.

Mr Honick died on October 26, 1971. The plaintiff claimed that his estate was entitled to a half share in the house. But Mrs Rawnsley claimed that it was wholly hers by survivorship. As it had been sold for £5,000, there was a considerable sum in dispute. The judge had held that the house was held by Mrs Rawnsley on trust for his estate and herself in equal shares. She appealed, claiming the whole.

The judge held that the conveyance was taken in joint names in contemplation by Mr Honick that the house would be the matrimonial home. If both parties had contemplated marriage and the house had been taken in joint names with that object, then, when that object failed, there would be a resulting trust for each according to their respective contributions to the purchase price: *Ulrich v Ulrich* ([1968] 1 WLR 180, 185). When the object of a trust failed there was a resulting trust for those who contributed to it: *Essery v Cowlard* ((1884) 26 ChD 191).

But what was the position where one contemplated marriage and the other did not? Mr Honick contemplated marriage so that the house should be a matrimonial home; Mrs Rawnsley contemplated that they would live in separate flats. But her contemplation failed. She said: "I mentioned the upper flat but he was a man of his own laws. He made it clear that I was not going into that house and that possession was nine tenths of the law." So the object of each failed. The result should be the same as if the common object failed. There should be a resulting trust in favour of the two of them according to their respective contributions.

Further the judge found that there was a severance of the joint tenancy by conduct. There was evidence on which he could find that there was an agreement that she would sell her joint share for £750.

In *Nielson-Jones v Fedden* ([1974] 3 WLR 583), Mr Justice Walton had thought that no conduct was sufficient to sever a joint tenancy unless it was irrevocable. He had founded himself upon *In re Wilks* ([1891] 3 Ch 59). His Lordship took a different view to Mr Justice Walton.

Equity leaned against joint tenancies and favoured tenancies in common. We had got past the old law of the three unities of interest, title and possession.

In *Williams v Hensman* ((1861) 1 John & H 546, 557), Sir William Page Wood, Vice-Chancellor, afterwards Lord Hatherley, Lord Chancellor, said that a joint tenancy could be severed in three ways, including mutual agreement, and, thirdly, "any course of dealing sufficient to intimate that the interests of all were mutually treated as constituting a tenancy in common". It was sufficient if one party made clear to the other party that he desired that their shares should no longer be held jointly but be held in common. The decision of Mr Justice Plowman in *In re Draper's Conveyance* ([1969] 1 Ch 486) was correct: that in *Nielson-Jones v Fedden* was incorrect.

There was evidence that Mr Honick and Mrs Rawnsley did come to a firm agreement that he would buy her share for £750. That agreement was not in writing. It was not specifically enforceable, yet it was sufficient to effect a severance.

The appeal should be dismissed.

LORD JUSTICE BROWNE, concurring in dismissing the appeal, said that the judge was wrong on the first point, that the express trust in the conveyance was displaced. It was impossible to say that there was a total failure of consideration where a trust was created by two people and the purpose of one of them not communicated to the other failed.

But although the evidence was unsatisfactory, his Lordship would uphold the judgment on the ground that the joint tenancy was severed by Mrs Rawnsley's agreement to sell her share for £750 and her subsequent repudiation although that agreement might not be specifically enforceable. He agreed that Lord Hatherley's third category in *Williams v Hensman* was a separate category and with the judgment to be delivered by Sir John Pennycuick.

SIR JOHN PENNYCUICK, concurring, said that it was plain common sense that where a person made a disposition in contemplation of an intended marriage and the marriage did not in fact take place, he was entitled to have the disposition set aside. But where two persons made a disposition and one only made it in contemplation of an intended marriage there was no common purpose. Although Mrs Rawnsley's whole expectation failed as Mr Honick did not allow her to occupy the upper floor of the house, the common purpose was not to occupy the house as two tenements but as a single tenement. One could not treat Mrs Rawnsley's purpose in making the settlement as having failed so as to enable Mr Honick to treat the settlement as avoided.

The judge's second ground, however, was valid. He found as a fact that Mr Honick and Mrs Rawnsley agreed upon the sale by her to him of her share for £750. Once that finding was accepted the case fell squarely within Lord Hatherley's second rule in *Williams v Hensman*, "mutual agreement". His Lordship saw no sufficient reason for importing the qualification that the agreement must be specifically enforceable. The agreement served as an indication of a common intention to sever, which it was indisputably within the parties' power to do.

It was submitted that Mr Honick's mere proposal to purchase Mrs Rawnsley's share would operate as a severance within the third rule in *Williams v Hensman*, "any course of dealing sufficient to intimate" a severance, but when the severance depended on an inference of that kind without any express act of severance, it would not suffice to rely on intention declared only behind the backs of the other persons interested. One had to find a course of dealing by which the shares of all the parties to the contest had been affected. Whether such an inference could be drawn depended on the particular facts. The facts here fell far short of such an inference. One could not ascribe to joint tenants an intention to sever merely because one offered to buy out the other for £X and the other made a counter-offer of £Y.

Once it had been determined that an agreement was made, as was held in the present case, anything more said on the authorities cited must necessarily be obiter, but it might be helpful to state certain views formed in the light of the authorities.

The third rule in *Williams v Hensman* was not a mere sub-heading of the second rule. Section 36 (2) of the Law of Property Act, 1925, had radically altered the law with regard to severance by introducing an entirely new method of notice in writing of the desire to sever. Pre-1925 judicial statements and particularly that of Mr Justice Stirling in *In re Wilks* had to be read in the light of that alteration of the law. The policy of the law was to facilitate severance at the instance of either party.

Solicitors: Ellis & Fairbairn; Bates, Son & Braby.

## Science report

# Astronomy: Still no gravity waves

past few years it has
reasingly clear that the
Professor Joseph Weber,
an astronomer, to have
gravitational radiation
ibly mistaken. In spite
e results from other
s, however, there
few straws to which
of those claims could
one of those straws has
d inadequate.
Weber has undoub-
d an honoured place in
of Astronomy, even if
-wave detectors have
ll, detected any gravita-
tion. At least he did try
, starting in the 1950s,
e else took the search
Although mathemati-
d that Einstein's theory
the existence of such
hey also agreed that the
redicted such a low in-
ravity waves in our part
erse that there was no
ecting them.
It seemed that Professor
found something, after
10 years of searching, it
a little consternation
experts, and several
ps were encouraged to
own experiments. The
hat we can now say
fidently that Professor
not detected gravity
hough his equipment
to be responding to
and that is a fascinat-
in itself.
e key contributions in
gation has been made
at Glasgow University,
th Professor R. W. P.
couple of years ago they
at with their equipment
they could find no evidence of single large pulses of gravitational radiation, of the kind Professor Weber's detectors were supposedly recording. That was important in itself: but now the Glasgow team has taken things a step farther.

Apparently, it would be possible for the appearance of a large pulse of gravitational radiation to be imitated, in its effect on some detectors, by a burst of very small pulses—perhaps several thousand small pulses a day could account for Professor Weber's observations while being undetected by other experimenters. Now, that possibility too can be ruled out. The new studies at Glasgow have involved a search for just that kind of large flux of very small pulses, and none has been detected.

So where does all that leave the study of gravitational radiation? Has the frenzied activity encouraged by Professor Weber's claims been a waste of time? Those are natural questions, but curiously the answer is that the spur of Professor Weber's claims has encouraged a great advance in techniques which may yet produce a genuine detection of gravity waves. It looks as if the theorists were right 20 years ago, when they pointed out what a long way experimenters had to go before producing equipment capable of detecting this radiation. But in the effort to prove or disprove Professor Weber's claims, the observers have developed equipment that is half way to the target sensitivity. Having got so far, some groups at least will probably press on in the effort to detect this radiation at the levels predicted by General Relativity.

That is likely to take some time. Basically, gravity-wave detectors consist of large metal bars which are expected to be squeezed and stretched very slightly by the passage of a pulse of gravitational radiation. The squeezing is so small that the detectors can be disturbed by the small vibrations of traffic in the street outside the laboratory, or by thermal effects in the bar. But two possibilities in particular point the way for future developments.

First, the metal bar could be cooled close to absolute zero (−273°C) to minimize thermal effects, the change in length of the bar being measured by interferometry techniques, using laser beams bounced off the ends of the bar. Secondly, a gravitational-radiation experiment might be set up in space, where there is less vibration to disturb things.

Either way, it will probably be another decade or so before anything capable of detecting the radiation predicted by General Relativity is available. But many people who might not have committed themselves to a 20-year project in 1965 will now feel obliged to carry on from the half-way point in the hope of ultimate success. The very real prospect of such eventual success must, in retrospect, be largely thanks to Professor Weber's catalytic contributions.

By Nature-Times News Service
Source: *Nature*, April 10 (254, 498; 1975).
© Nature-Times News Service, 1975.

# ·ks by old masters
# d in Russia

April 15.—Soviet ex-
discovered hitherto un-
rks by two leading
ntury artists, according
ewspaper *Sovietskaya*
said today the paintings
copo Palma the Elder
who is ranked with
Giorgione as a master of
n High Renaissance, and
Dubois, the Flemish
orn in Antwerp in 1543,
rt painter to King Henri
ce. Few of his works
ed.
ya *Kultura* said the
were made indepen-
explained that experts
rt gallery decided to
darkened painting of a
nus, which they thought
ork of an unknown and
ed eighteenth-century
found there was an
earlier painting on the same canvas, also a sleeping Venus, which had been done in the sixteenth century by a first-class artist.

"Comparative analysis with the Venetian masters indicated it could only be by Jacopo Palma il Vecchio (the elder), a well-known exponent of the High Renaissance."

The newspaper said one of Moscow's leading craftsmen, Mr S. Churakov, restored a painting for the Odessa Museum of Western and Eastern Art which originated from a private collection. The work was in a bad state of decay but Mr Churakov found it to represent a battle scene.

Mr Vassily Vlasov, an Odessa art historian, working over several years, confirmed the painting as a Dubois—the "only one in the Soviet Union".—UPI.

# Fourth channel call for Wales

The Independent Broadcasting Authority's Welsh committee said yesterday that a fourth television channel in Wales should be set up as soon as possible and should give priority to screening programmes in the Welsh language.

The channel should be set up without waiting for a Government decision on the use of a fourth channel in the rest of the United Kingdom, the committee said in evidence to Lord Annan's committee on the future of broadcasting.

# Post scales wrong

The Post Office Corporation was fined £25 by magistrates at Chichester, Sussex, yesterday, for having inaccurate scales in the sub-post office at Southbourne.

# Secretarial and General Appointments also on page 31

also on page 31

### GENERAL

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**PERSONNEL ADMINISTRATOR**, circa £4,000, for large industrial group in East Kent: the person will have a thorough background in salaries, pensions and contracts administration, probable age 28 to 38, relocation allowance.—Please contact Jody Farquharson, JFL Recruitment Consultants, 17 Stratton Street, W.1. 01-493 8824.

**PURCHASING ASSISTANT**, 18-25 years, required for major oil company client: firstly for routine duties but with good prospects of advancement; must have minimum of 4 "O" levels and be well spoken; starting salary within range £2,000-£2,700.—Monica Grove & Assoc., 589 0151.

**BRIGHT TELEPHONIST/RECEPTIONIST** for Bond St. Secretarial Consultancy, with typing ability. Salary £2,000 negotiable. Please call Directors' Secretaries 629 9323.

**SRN INTERVIEWER**, 25-35 years, urgently required for well known nursing agency. Experience not [illegible]

**WILL** the real Girl Friday please come forward! We need you for our Tourist Office in Mayfair. Tel. 499 4859, a.m. only.

**YOUTH OFFICER** required from 1st July, 1975.—See General Vacs.

**WESTERN STAFF** wants you for temp typing. 262 Regent Street. 439 1801.

**RECEPTIONIST**, busy friendly Film Production Company in W.1 are looking for a cheerful, hardworking Receptionist. 3 weeks' holiday. 9.30-6.00. Ring 01-437 3315

**INTERIOR DECORATOR** seeks competent assistant 18-23 years, car driver essential. Previous experience an advantage. West London area. Telephone Miss Cooke on 01-738 8345.

**SUMMER TERM** in Boys' Prep. School. Girl required help Matron end of April. S.C. flat, swimming, tennis, squash.—Tel. Ascot 20815.

**PART-TIME** (about 20 hours per week) to start immediately. Liaison Officer/Girl Friday for children's charity, to co-ordinate local fund-raising groups and deal with public. Must have disciplined mind to cope with a million things all happening at once. Hectic, but never a dull moment! Ability to type and good telephone manner essential. If you are tired of routine jobs and would like to do something really worthwhile, please phone 01-734 6472; or 01-778 7906 (evenings). Also full-time Telephonist/Typist required.

**INTELLIGENT GIRL** for interesting job in lively Mayfair tourist office. Initiative and ability required to promote tours of Britain for overseas visitors, £2,000 p.a. Phone 629 5267.

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of Diners Club Ltd., the International Credit card people at Oxford Circus offices.
Attractive salary and conditions. Previous experience at senior level and good secretarial skills essential.
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Secretary to help out in an Advertising Agency full of Celts. Salary is £2,500.
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Small informal architects' office requires Secretary to look after five architects. Accuracy more important than high speeds. Negotiable salary.

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Required (with shorthand) for Company Secretary in small pleasant West End Office. Previous experience of general office routine essential.
Interesting position for responsible person with initiative. Salary about £2,400. Phone 734 6144.

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36 High Holborn, London, W.C.2.

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The inflationary spiral has caused miserable skinflint Accountant to offer boring, uninspiring job to applicant aged 18-27, shorthand or audio: £40-£45 per week.

SUSAN HAMILTON PERSONNEL
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**FANTASTIC JOB** for a Secretary with average speeds (100 40-45), with little or no experience. The job is with whisky distillers who specialise on the export side of the business. You'll be working in a small, friendly office near Piccadilly where each member of the team is made to feel important. Plenty of variety here and for starters a salary of £1,900.—London Town Bureau, 836 1994.

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**INVOLVEMENT**, stimulation, satisfaction, that's what awaits an audio Secretary with leading W.1 magazine publishers. Work in sales and even on TV commercials. £2,200 plus £130 threshold for good organiser. Rand 499 8101.

**WORK WITH SMALL**, friendly team, in young solicitor's office, based Wigmore Street area. Audio-Secretary, self-motivated; 9.30-5.30. Around £2,500. Joan Fernie Personnel, 115 Park Street, W.1. 01-408 2412-2415-2459.

**IT'S YOUR OFFICE**, run it the way you want! Secretary P.A., no shorthand, used to responsibility for new company in advertising; lots of phone work, some book-keeping, flexihours; £2,500.—Rand, 491 3774.

**PEOPLE PERSON WANTED!** Secretary P.A. to help organise interviews, run busy personnel department of International Co. 9.30-5.30. Free B.U.P.A. 4 weeks holidays. £2,500.—Rand, 491 3774.

**EXHIBITION ORGANISER** seeks young attractive Secretary to assist him in arranging and attending exhibitions. Salary £2,200. Please ring Bond St. Bureau, 499 1558.

**FRENCH MOTHER TONGUE** and shorthand in French? You're just the girl a leading French bank needs for one of its directors. £2,410 plus L.V.s.—Rand, 01-589 4545

**AUDIO SECRETARY** age 21-28 for young firm near Green Park Underground. Hours 10-6. Salary £2,400. Telephone Mr. Jackman, 01-629 9100.

**TEMPORARY SECRETARY** required for London hospital to work in their administration dept. for 3 weeks. £45 p.w. Contact Curzon Bureau, 493 8854.

**TEMPORARY SECRETARIES**, £1.30; audio, £1.15+; typists, £1.05+; clerks, 90p. up; all areas; visitors welcome.—Belle Agy., 935 0731 or City, 405 4814.

**MONICA GROVE AND ASSOC.**, 589 6601 Personnel Consultants specialising in the selection of uncommonly good staff.

WHERE NEXT? Bright young Secretaries preferring the prestige and status of Merchant Banking, the International Company and City World challenge, will find excellent secretarial opportunities through us.

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of the American Institute for Foreign Study, the Educational Travel Organisation. First class person able to work independently and accurately. Fast shorthand and typing and ability to work methodically under pressure without losing her sense of humour important. Interesting and varied work. French useful. Age 25 plus. Good benefits, bonus, BUPA, pension.
Send c.v. to AIFS, 37 Queens Gate, London, SW1 5HR.

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REQUIRED FOR COMPANY SECRETARY

Experience preferred. Shorthand and audio. Small friendly office near Temple Station. 9.30-5.30.

SALARY £2,250 P.A.

Tel.: Miss Webberley, 836 9261

**MIDDLE EAST ECONOMIC DIGEST**

Chairman of the leading news magazine about the area, requires intelligent, adaptable SECRETARY/P.A. with shorthand, able to work on own initiative, and with ability to get on with a wide variety of people.
Salary according to age and experience. Knowledge of and interest in the Middle East an advantage.
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Telephone: 242 8533

**SENIOR SECRETARY**

is required for Ship Broker in City, also involved in cruising, tourism, conservation, history and art. Interesting and varied work. Must be well educated, at least to "A" level standard, have first class secretarial skills, experience at managing director level, be able to work efficiently and fast. Late start but must accept to stay late occasionally. Salary £2,500. Telephone 623 1964, Miss Pouris.

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A financial consultant in Hampstead with a distinguished clientele is looking for a versatile girl to assist him, £2,200 negotiable.

Please listen on 499 9774, but don't speak.

**A JOB WORTH DOING**

The Catholic Housing Aid Society seeks a good Copy and Audio typist for its small headquarters team, salary negotiable, canteen luncheon, pleasant working spirit. Please telephone for appointment:
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(22-40 years) with first-rate S.T. required to run on her own the well-equipped comfortable London office off Park Lane of an International manufacturer: 4 weeks' holiday; LVs; salary up to £2,500.

Apply Director 01-499 6744.

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Absolutely first-class opportunity for well-educated, well-groomed and experienced Secretary around 23, looking for responsibility, variety and scope for involvement. She will work alongside senior Director in renowned City company, on an international level. Salary £2,500 plus annual bonus, good discounts and holidays, etc. — Ring Judith Kaye, CHALLONERS, 10 Foster Lane, E.C.2. 606 4366.

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**AUDIO SECRETARY/P.A.** is wanted to work with a small team dealing with consumer products in a well-known company of rubber manufacturers. Pleasant office in Westminster. Age 22 plus. Salary up to £2,500 plus LVs.—Phone Victoria Agency, 01-730 4161 (few mins. Victoria Station.)

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**ADVERTISING SECRETARY**, Mayfair, 21 plus, for two energetic Sales Executives. Enthusiasm and initiative required for coordinating meetings, handling film presentation, assisting with clients. Salary £2,000.—Ring Sheena O'Byrne, 499 8136.

**INTERNATIONAL PUBLIC RELATIONS** co. requires Secretary for Managing Director's office. Attractive salary and pleasant working conditions. Tel. Lorna, 493 1143.

**GRADUATE SECRETARIES** with and without shorthand for interesting temporary secretarial posts in non commercial fields. Please phone Prospect Temps Ltd, 629 2200 or 629 1331.

**RECEPTIONIST**/Audio Typist (must be 18) required for estate agents near St. John's Wood Station. Hours 9.30-5.30. Salary £2,000. Ring 935 7799. Ref. M.G.W.

**SECRETARY**/Girl Friday. Small P.R. office needs young helper with typing. At £1,800 p.a. plus LVs, super benefits, easy atmosphere and 3 weeks holiday. Ring Jeannine on 01-603 8365.

**ESTATE AGENT**, W.1, needs Secretary with good skills age 25+, £2,500. Belgravia Bureau. 584 4545.

**BRUSSELS**. An experienced bilingual secretary, good English shorthand/typing speeds. 18,000 BF monthly, no tax. 435 9637.

**CHAIRMAN** of elite fashion house requires Personal Secretary/P.A. to work at his home, overlooking Hyde Park. £3,500. Rand 491 3774.

**GOOD SECRETARIES**, Audio and Copy Typists needed. Contact Miss Roslyn Taylor Interstaff, 5 Paddington Street, London, W.1. Telephone 01-935 3981.

**SECRETARIES** for Architects contact AMSA Agency, 734 0532.

**MEDICAL SECRETARIES**. Temporary and permanent. Top rates. Apply Miss Roslyn Taylor, Medical and General Agency, 5 Paddington Street, London, W.1. Telephone: 935 3637 or 486 [illegible]

**FINANCIAL ASSISTANT**, 18-25 years, required for major oil company client. Firstly, for routine duties but with good prospects of advancement. Must have minimum of 4 "O" levels and be well spoken. Starting salary within range £2,000-£2,700.—Monica Grove & Assoc., 589 0151.

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Good typing, organisational ability and willingness to take responsibility essential.

Rewards are—excellent salary (over £2,200), L.V.s, interesting, friendly people and challenging work.

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requires a young EXECUTIVE SECRETARY able to take responsibility and show initiative.

Please phone ANNE SMITH:
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**TYPIST** required to assist in running of busy academic departmental office: work is varied and requires good typing, some shorthand; experience, intelligence and initiative; involves contact with staff and students. Preferred age early twenties. IBM Golfball typewriter. Salary within scale: £2,026 to £2,451 inclusive. Four weeks' annual leave plus one week at Christmas and at Easter. Applications to Miss F. M. Ridley (T), Personnel Officer, University College London, Gower Street, London WC1E 6BT. Telephone 01-387 7050 extension 209.

**SPRECHEN SIE DEUTSCH.** English/German speaking Sec. to be based near Frankfurt and to assist the export executive promoting the company's products in BRD, Switzerland, Austria, and the Netherlands. An excellent command of both languages (written and spoken) essential. Ring: Mr. D. J. Bateman, 01-353 5675.

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**PA SECRETARY**, 24-30, for Director of small merchant bank, W.1. Excellent position for socially adept girl. Director level experience desirable. Salary negotiable to £3,000 for right applicant. Phone Miller & McNish (Agy), Kingsway. 242 2410/9.

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**TEMP. SECRETARY** for P.R. Officer of private medical insurance co. Someone capable of dealing with press and coping with pressure. Indefinite booking. Up to £1.30 per hour.—London Town Bureau, 836 1994.

**S.W.1.** — Secretary / driver / cook needed for small, friendly firm of consultants: age 25 plus: salary circa £2,500.—Phone Senior Secretaries, 01-499 0092; 01-493 5407.

**INTERESTING PART-TIME** Professional company, Gloucester Road area, competent book-keeper to start immediately, 10 a.m. to 4 p.m. £1,700 negotiable. 01-370 1577.

**HIGH SPEED** Secretary P.A. for motor energy corporation director. Plan his travels, organise meetings, deal with top clients, soothe his fevered brow, £2,500.—Rand, 725 7455

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**BILINGUAL** and multilingual secretaries with shorthand. Contact The Linguist Agency, 439 1818.

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**AUDIO SECRETARY** for Solicitors near Bond Street. Varied work, conveyancing and litigation. Some legal experience preferred, but not essential. Flexible hours. Salary minimum £2,100+, L.V.'s. Phone 734 8411. Ref. D.S.

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To Senior Partner of City-based Management Consultants. Bright, efficient organiser.

To Director, City-based Ad Agency: good skills essential for ambitious girl.

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**£2,500 PA/SECRETARY**

Director in W.1 seeks an efficient go-ahead Secretary to work on own initiative with sense of responsibility, pleasant telephone manner and personality, good shorthand and typing is essential, and telex an advantage.

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124 New Bond Street, W.1.

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Mature Secretary for Consultants office W.1 moving shortly to W.C.2. Neat accurate typing with shorthand required. Small friendly office with large company benefits.
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Help the Sales Manager of this lively American company by St. James's Park. He offers you up to £2,400 at 22 plus, to liberate your audio and shorthand skills.

Please dial 493 7877

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**TOP P.A./SEC. FOR HOLBORN**

P.R. Co., for a job with a real future. If you work hard with plenty of enthusiasm, promotion to Exec. status is certainly the next step up the ladder. Busy outfit, so no chance of boredom! Salary £2,300. Ring ADventure, 399 5993.

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For enthusiastic young Sec. to work for Director in expanding West End Agency—if you are now looking for more of a P.A. position, have agency experience, good Sec. skills and personality plus, wanting a salary of c. £2,500, telephone Fiona Buchanan, 589 4451/584 4225.

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**WOULD THIS EASE** your travel problem? being based near Baker Street Tube. P.A./Sec. to work for director in large international store group. Over 21, but age immaterial; good skills and pleasant personality is important; around £2,500 with goodies thrown in.—Joan Fernie Personnel, 115 Park Street, W.1. 01-408 2412-2415-2459.

**SEARCHING FOR SOMETHING?** We have a variety of answers in offer at our friendly Kensington office. Permanent or temporary, top secretary or college leaver you will find a personal service that will surprise and please you. Call Pam Greenwood or Sue Whitchurch, 937 6525. CENTACOM STAFF, 225 Kensington High St., W.1.

**INTERESTED IN THE ARTS**, students living in the country? Energetic secretary wanted by Art & Design Department. Shorthand typing essential. NJC Clerical 1 Scale. Apply to Gareth Keene, Dartington College of Arts, Totnes, Devon. TQ9 6EJ.

**EMBASSY** (student's department) require well educated girl for interesting secretarial post. Good shorthand and typewriting essential. Hours 10 a.m.-5 p.m. Salary £1,575-£1,900. Please telephone 01-584 1558.

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**ADVERTISING COMPANY** Director requires alert intelligent Secretary/Personal Assistant. Own office W.1. Salary negotiable. Commence 28th April, 1975. Phone: 580 3030.

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LONDON AND SUBURBAN



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SAVILLS 20 GROSVENOR HILL, BERKELEY SQUARE, LONDON W1X 0HQ. TEL: 01-499 8644.

CHELSEA, SW3

Superb mod. house. Immediate access to private gardens. 5 beds, 3 recep., 3 baths, kitchen, garage. Freehold for sale.

ST JOHN'S WOOD NW8

Close to Lord's cricket ground. Spacious maisonette. 3 beds, 2 recep., kit., bath, garage. Lease 42 years approx. Price £37,000 to incl. c. & c.

MAYFAIR, W1

Flat adjoining Park Lane, overlooking private gardens. 1 bed, 1 recep., kit. & bath. 28 years lease approx. Price £27,500 to incl. c. & c.

HINTON & CO. in association with GIDDY & GIDDY, 47 South Audley St., W.1. 493 3891.

WIMBLEDON, S.W.19

A substantial well maintained detached house in one of Wimbledon's quiet private roads. An attractive property just off Copse Hill enjoying rural seclusion. Reception hall, drawing, dining, study, luxury kitchen/breakfast room, master bed suite (dressing and bathroom), 4 other beds, 2nd bath, c.h., ½ acre garden, garage. £59,500 freehold.

STURGIS & SON The Clock House, High Street, Wimbledon. 01-946 3052.

SUSSEX MEWS EAST W.2

A fine Mews House situated in a modern development in a private mews, close to Hyde Park. 2 bedrooms, kitchen, double reception room, bathroom, separate w.c., utility room. Garage. Central heating. Constant hot water.

Lease: 83½ years approx. G.R. £75 p.a. excl. Price £38,000 to include carpets and curtains.

EDWARD ERDMAN & CO. 6 Grosvenor Street London, W.1 Telephone: 01-629 8191

KENSINGTON, S.W.5

Newly renovated mews house in private cobbled cul-de-sac, close West London Air Terminal. Spacious and in first-class order ready for immediate occupation. 3 car garage, 3 beds., 3 baths (One en suite), dining room with spiral to newly built top floor studio, recept., kit., 2 large balconies. Gas C.H., 80 years. G.R. £50. £33,000 inc., carpets and kit. equip.

LONDON FLATS

GROSVENOR SQUARE W.1

Two flats available in a prestige block overlooking this delightful square. 2 complete bedroom suites/4 bedrooms. Cloakroom. 3/4 reception rooms. Kitchen/breakfast room. Laundry. 2/3 bathrooms. Staff quarters. Central heating. Uniformed porterage (24hr.) Constant hot water. Lift.

Leases: 50 years approx. G.R.'s: £250 p.a. (rising) excl. Substantial prices required for the benefit of these valuable interests.

EDWARD ERDMAN & CO. 6 Grosvenor Street, London, W.1. Tel. 01-629 8191.

PRINCES MEWS, W2

Unusually spacious maisonette and comprising 3 bedrooms, 1 with bathroom en suite, large lounge, 29ft by 16ft 9in., large fitted kitchen, bathroom, cloakroom with w.c., garage space available.

Over £17,000 just spent on refurbishing.

£32,500 with 99-year lease

MICHAEL RICHARDS & CO. 01-994 8512.

CHELSEA FLAT WITH PATIO

S.c. and newly converted to high standard in popular residential position, offering 2 bedrooms (1 with en suite shower), bathroom, living room, kitchen and hall; good store cupboards, independent gas c.h., c.h.w. Patio. Lease 62 years, G.R. £30 p.a. Price £19,250 for quick sale.

FRIEND & FALCKE 293 Brompton Rd., Chelsea, SW3 01-584 5361

REGENT'S PARK PENTHOUSE

Panoramic view. Split level, 8th floor, lift, 29ft. lounge, 2 beds., 3 bath., en suite, decorated by Swiss designers. Terraces overlooking park, porterage, basement, garaging. Super equipped kitchen, gas central heating, double glazing, all amenities. Fixtures, equipment and some furnishings. £8,750. Unfurnished lease, £1,800 p.a. Renewable 1977. Box 2018 M, The Times.

PHILBEACH GARDENS, SW5

Small modern 1st floor flat, overlooking large secluded private gardens. 3 rooms, kitchen and bathroom. 94-year lease at £25 per annum. Price £32,750.

Ring 01-734 5968 (DAY) or 01-994 4861 (EVENINGS)

PORTMAN TOWERS W.1

Immaculate penthouse in prestige modern block, close Marble Arch. 3 beds, 3 bath, kitchen and 2 receps., floodlit terrace, underground garaging, interior by David Hicks. 112-year lease. Realistic Price.

ALEXANDER SCOTT & CO. 01-333 7114

ONSLOW SQ., S.W.7.

Spacious ground-floor flat overlooking gardens. 4 rooms, k. & b., storeroom, large terrace, c.h., & c.h.w. Rent and service charge £727 exclusive rates. Remainder of lease 3 years renewable. Furnishings, fittings & some furniture £5,000.—Box 2051 M, The Times.

GARDEN SQUARE FLAT

IN WATES DEVELOPMENT AT BOW

15 mins. City. Double bedroom, living room (15ft. x 11½ft.), fitted kitchen, bathroom. C.H. Built in wardrobe, cupboards. Garage.

95 years at G.R. £5. £11,000.

01-839 7090 ext. 17 or 980 9766.

PRINCES GATE, KNIGHTSBRIDGE.—Prestige modern block; marvellous 4th floor flat overlooking private gardens. 2/3 reception rooms, 3 bathrooms, 3/4 bedrooms, large kitchen. Lease until March, 1981. Rent £4,900 p.a. excl. Price £13,500 for excellent carpets, curtains, kitchen equipment, fixtures and fittings.—Douglas Lyons & Lyons, 235 ...

LONDON FLATS

NORTHGATE REGENT'S PARK

A comfortable easily run FLAT with very pleasant open outlook, few yards Park and excellent shops, arranged 3rd floor providing 3 bedrooms, bathroom, living room, dining room, kitchen, cloakroom, etc. c.h., c.h.w., porterage, lift. Sun Terrace. Lease 95 yrs approx. GR £75 pa. Moderate service charge. Price £35,000 including carpets and curtains. Recommended. Ref: LWT

BERKELEY COURT, NW1

Few yards Regent's Park and excellent shops and transport. Arranged 2nd floor 3 bedrooms, dressing room, 2 bathrooms, living room com. with dining room, kitchen, cloakroom, c.h., etc., porterage, lifts. Roof Garden. Lease 47 years. GR £30 pa. Reasonable service charge. Price £35,000. Ref: FWT

HAMPSTEAD, NW3

Most attractive easily run house few minutes shops and near Heath. 4-5 bedrooms, 2 bathrooms, 2-3 reception rooms, kitchen/breakfast room, c.h., patio, garden. Double Garage. Freehold £40,000. Ref: FWT

FOLKARD & HAYWARD 01-935 7799

£9,995

WARBECK RD., W.12

L-shaped sitting room with open plan kitchen, one bed., pretty bathroom, plus walled garden makes this an attractive ground floor flat.

£11,450-£11,650

BARTON COURT, W.14

Newly redecorated and rewired one bed flats with c.h.w. excellent value. Very central.

JOHN GRANBY 01-749 3395

AVENUE ROAD ST. JOHN'S WOOD

Several flats and a prestige penthouse available in a modern purpose-built block between Swiss Cottage and Regent's Park, close to transport and shopping facilities. 3 bedrooms, 2 bathrooms, 2 Reception rooms, kitchen; balcony; C.H., C.H.W.; lifts porterage; Entryphone; garages; leases: 125yrs approx.; G.R.s: £160 p.a. (rising), excl. Prices: £49,500, £59,500.

EDWARD ERDMAN & CO. 6 Grosvenor Street London, W.1 TEL.: 01-629 8191

FLATS IN CHELSEA

C.P.K. are producing 1, 2 and 3 bed. flats in Harcourt Terr., Redcliffe Sq., Cathcart Rd., Hollywood Rd., and Ifield Rd. The flats are radically converted to very high specifications. Smartly fitted kitchens and bathrooms, generous built-in storage. Some carpeted throughout, some with patio, garden or terrace. All with c.h., and entry phone. Help provided with finance.

Prices from £13,000 for long leases.

01-584 8517 CPK DEVELOPMENTS LTD

CUMBERLAND TERRACE, N.W.1

A delightful third floor flat in a superb Nash terrace occupying a prime position overlooking Regent's Park. 2 bedrooms, bathroom, 2 reception rooms, kitchen, cloakroom, garage, basement store room, central heating, domestic hot water, lift, porterage. Lease 17 years approximately, G.R. £275 per annum (excl). Price: £29,500.

EDWARD ERDMAN & CO., 6 Grosvenor Street, London, W.1. TEL: 01-629 8191.

BAYSWATER W2

Extremely attractive and spacious newly decorated flat; 2 beds., dressing room, bathroom, superb reception, fully fitted kitchen, including cooker and fridge and separate dining area. Full c.h. Close park. West End and shops. 99 year lease. Fitted carpets and curtains, included in sale price of

£21,750

01-727 7179 OFFICE HOURS.

FULHAM PALACE RD.

Almost opposite Charing Cross Hospital

Spacious flat. 2 bedrooms, lounge, huge kitchen dining room, bathroom, sep. w.c., gas c.h., redec. Ready immediate occupation. £13,500 for 99 year lease.

MICHAEL RICHARDS & CO. 01-994 8512

PROPERTY TO LET

ST. JOHN'S WOOD.—Meeting place. To let: Modern hall (50 ft. x 20 ft.): 5 mins. from St. John's Wood Station. Suitable for rehearsals, meetings, exhibitions, lectures.—For details, apply: M. D. Martin, 12 Loudoun Road, N.W.8. Tel. 01-637 0631 (day).

TWICKENHAM.—New executive town house. 4 beds., 3 receptions. All new furnishings and appliances. £80 per week.—Telephone 01-892 7117 or 01-891 2847.

HAYWARDS HEATH, Sussex. Furnished cottage, 4 bedrooms (2 double, 2 single), 3 reception rooms, 1 bathroom. Full c.h. Garage. To let for 1 year £130 p.m. —Phone Lindfield 2916.

DORSET.—Cat lover's wanted to rent charming old house, from end of May, 6 mths. let. 3 beds., 2 baths., 2 recep., kitchen. All mod. cons. 100 yds. shops. Small walled garden. Reasonable rent.—Ring Beaminster 482.

GERRARDS CROSS. 30 mins. West End or Heathrow. American School Bus. Half-acre garden, modern high specification house. Private road in exclusive park. 4 beds., 3 recep. Unfurnished. All carpets, curtains. Lease period to suit tenant. £90 p.w., exclusive. Chalfont St. Giles (02407) 2031.

CHARMING FAMILY COTTAGE, s./c., for short let, near Warminster. £25 p.w.—Ring 305 2400 now.

FULLY FURNISHED / EQUIPPED quality houses: Surrey/Hants country, commutable areas. From £35 p.w. Pilgrims Ltd. Rurfold 3132.

PROPERTY WANTED

FLASK WALK HAMPSTEAD

A delightful house of character in the heart of Hampstead Village. 4 bedrooms, bathroom, double reception room, kitchen. Garden. Central Heating. Domestic hot water. Lease 85 years approx. G.R. £6 p.a. excl. Price £47,500 to incl. certain carpets, curtains, fixtures and fittings.

EDWARD ERDMAN & CO. 6 Grosvenor Street, London, W.1 Tel. 01-629 8191

LIVE ON THE RIVER

Thames Ditton, luxury riverside flat, being one of a unique block of eight, overlooking Home Park with beautiful views of the Thames. Automatic gas-fired C.H., 38ft. garage/boathouse with slipway to own deep mooring. Spacious hall, large lounge, balcony, 2 dble. bedrooms, luxury bathroom, separate w.c., labour-saving kitchen with Expelair fan and waste-disposal unit. Completely carpeted. 991 years. Ground rent £30 p.a. Double glazing. £29,500 o.n.o.

TEL.: 01-398 0587

REGENT'S PARK

York Terrace, N.W.1. Newly built semi-detached town house on 3 floors only. 4 bedrms., 2 bathrms (1 ensuite), 2 rec. rms., luxury kitchen. Gas c.h. and c.h.w. Garage and parking. PATIO FACING SOUTH.

Luxury condition, ready for immed. occupation. 91 yrs. lease. G.R. £175 p.w. £87,500 inc. new carpets, curtains, f. and f. Owner at 01-629 6102 office hrs.

BUYER'S MARKET

Why should you settle for anything less than exactly what you want in your house? With CROY CONSTRUCTION you pick the area, kind of house you require and specify the internal requirements. We will locate and purchase the property and our unified teams of architects and craftsmen will then renovate this property to your standards with economy, skill and imagination. This will be done in 4 to 6 weeks with guaranteed price.

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BRACKENBURY ROAD, W.6

South facing family terraced house, 4 mins. Ravenscourt Park tube. Would make ideal family house with min. modernization. 6 rooms, kit. and bath, good garden. Freehold £16,000.

MARSH & PARSONS 602 0025

FREEHOLD INVESTMENT KENSINGTON

6 storey property converted into 12 de luxe (6 vacant) flats, fully furnished, c.h.

£65,000

STURGIS & SON 61 PARK LANE, W.1 01-493 1401

POTTERS BAR, Herts. 1 mile station and 20 mins. Kings X. 2 bedroom. 1st floor flat in 3½ acre wooded site on Green line and bus routes. Gas C.h., double glazed, garage, 10 years old, no HAC. No lifts, no porterage. £20,000. Potters Bar 57198.

TEDDINGTON.—Spacious 4 bedroom Edwardian semi-detached house. Large modern kitchen, gas central heating. Very good structural and decorative condition. Absolutely must be sold, £25,500 or best offer. Pemberton, 64 The Green, Twickenham, 01-894 1924.

RICHFORD STREET W.12

Beautifully modernised and maintained family house. 5 mins Shepherds Bush Green, 5 beds., 3 recept., large completely fitted kit breakfast room, 2 baths, utility room, good rear garden, quality Wilton carpets throughout, gas C.H. Freehold £25,750.

MARSH & PARSONS 602 0025

LANSDOWNE ROAD, W.11

Backing on to communal gardens. Ideal family accom. in quiet Notting Hill road: 5 beds., 3 recept., 2 baths., cloaks, kit. and breakfast area; c.h.; garden. Freehold £66,000 o.n.o.

MARSH & PARSONS 727 9811

KINGSTON

FIVE YEARS OLD GEORGIAN-STYLE HOUSE FOR SALE

Present owner has spent much money to ensure superb condition. Four bedrooms, two bathrooms, magnificent kitchen. Small garden completely crazy paved.

PRICE £46,500

Please telephone Mr. Rogers, 989 0077

ALWYNNE VILLAS CANONBURY, N.1

Charming period cottage in quiet location requiring complete renovation; six rooms, rear garden.

£13,000 Freehold

DEBENHAM TEWSON & CHINNOCKS 01-499 9152

ST. JOHN'S Sale by Order of the Court. Freehold property in need of modernisation, period house, 3 bedrooms, bathroom, kitchen, 2 inter-communicating reception rooms, 35ft garage, yard plus rear studio workshop. Freehold only £35,000. Britton Poole and Burns, 2 Wellington Road, N.W.8. 01-722 1166.

HIGHGATE.—Quiet town house, good views, living room, 32ft by 22ft patio, fitted kitchen, 3 bedrooms, bathroom, study, store, garage, gas c.h. £38,500. 263 0335.

DOMESTIC SITUATIONS

JORDAN

Experienced and mature Nanny required from July for three girls aged 6 and 4 (at morning school) and 18 months. Own room. Use of car. Other staff kept. Animal loving. Swimmer preferred.

Please write with photograph to

Box 2042 M, The Times.

DOMESTIC SITUATIONS

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Required by family of 3 adults: own bed sitting room and bathroom suite. TV. Excellent dailies. Wages by negotiation.

Please write giving all details to:

MRS. CECIL MOORES, MAYFIELD, FRESHFIELD, LIVERPOOL L37 7AG

CHAUFFEUR

COUNTRY PROPERTIES

# Strutt and Parker

BEDFORD·CANTERBURY·CHELMSFORD·CHESHIRE·EDINBURGH·GRANTHAM·IPSWICH·LEWES·SALISBURY·SOUT...

## SOUTH DORSET

*About 7 miles east of Dorchester*

THE SOUTHOVER ESTATE, TOLPUDDLE

*A FIRST CLASS RESIDENTIAL, AGRICULTURAL AND SPORTING ESTATE*

A Well Appointed Stone Built Family House, Hall, Cloakroom/Gun Room, 4 Reception Rooms, 6 Bedrooms, Dressing Room, 4 Bathrooms, Nursery/Playroom, 3 Secondary Staff Bedrooms, Oil Central Heating. Excellent garaging. Stabling, Outbuildings and Squash Court. Easily maintained pleasure gardens. Period Farmhouse. 1 Modernised Cottages, Comprehensive range of corn, Stock and Storage Buildings. A Commercial Arable and Stock Farm.

**Airstrip and Hangar About 4,000 Yards of Double Bank Fishing. Good Mixed Shoot.**

**IN ALL ABOUT 747 ACRES**

of which 52 acres are let and produce £359 per annum.

London Office, Tel. 01-629 7282 and **Salisbury Office,** 41 Milford Stree... Tel. 0722 28741.

(Ref. 7A127...

## NOTTINGHAMSHIRE

*Southwell 5 miles, Newark 6 miles, Nottingham 17 miles*

**FINE WELL RESTORED HOUSE MAINLY OF GEORGIAN CHARACTER** in unspoilt and peaceful rural situation. Hall, 4/5 Reception Rooms, Domestic Offices, 7 Main and 2 Secondary Bedrooms, 4 Bathrooms. Full Central Heating.

Attractive Georgian Coach House, Stabling.

Swimming Pool. Garden, Woodland and Paddock.

**ABOUT 7 ACRES**

*Joint Agents: Knight, Frank & Rutley,* 20 Hanover Square, London W1R 0AH. Tel. 01-629 8171 and Strutt & Parker, Grantham Office, Spitalgate House, London Road, Tel. 0476 5886.

(Ref. 4AB 634)

## RUTLAND

*Near Oakham, in the Cottesmore Hunt Country*

**A SMALL HUNTING BOX comprising a Charming Thatched Period Cottage in delightful village.** 4 Reception Rooms, 5 Bedrooms, 2 Bathrooms, Central Heating, Staff Cottage, Garaging. Excellent range of stabling.

**ABOUT 1½ ACRES**

Possibility of further 15 acres grazing to rent.

**Grantham Office,** Spitalgate House, London Road, Tel. 0476 5886.

(Ref. 4BC733)

## KENT—FORDWICH

*Canterbury 2½ miles, Station ½ mile*

**A PLEASANT PERIOD COTTAGE in this very popular village.** 2 Reception Rooms, Study, 4 Bedrooms, Bathroom, Garage, Workshop, Walled Garden, Building Plot; £19,750.

**Canterbury Office,** 8 Rose Lane, Tel. 51123.

(Ref. 8CD/250)

## ESSEX/HERTS BORDER

*Roydon. Liverpool Street 30 minute... London 22 miles*

**AN OUTSTANDING AND IMPOSIN... TUDOR STYLE PROPERTY situated in magnificent elevated position overlooki... the Lea Valley.** Entrance Hall, 3 Rece...tion Rooms, 5 Bedrooms, Bathroom, S... Loggia, Oil Central Heating. Extensi... garaging and stabling, Greenhouse a... Summer house. Landscaped groun... Sheltered Paddocks.

**ABOUT 10½ ACRES**

**In the region of £75,000**

**Chelmsford Office,** Coval Hall, Tel. 02... 58201.

(Ref. 2BB12...

## ESSEX

*Chelmsford 5 miles, Liverpool Street ... minutes*

**A SUPERB GEORGIAN COUNT... HOUSE occupying fine elevated posit... with views over lake and parkland.** H... 3 Reception Rooms, Study, 7 Bedroo... Dressing Room, 3 Bathrooms, A... Room, Central Heating. Staff Cotta... Squash and Tennis courts. Swimmi... Pool. Stables, Lake gardens and groun...

**ABOUT 21 ACRES**

**Chelmsford Office,** Coval Hall, Tel. 02... 58201.

(Ref. 2AB130

## KENT—NEAR FAVERSHAM

*M2 about 2 miles. London 50 miles*

**SEVERAL PERIOD COUNTRY COTTAG... FOR MODERNISATION** in an area of c... standing natural beauty, providing ex... lent opportunities for homes of charac... and interest in peaceful countryside ... yet within easy reach of nearby tow... London and the coast.

**Prices from £7,000 to £14,250**

**Canterbury Office,** 8 Rose Lane, ... 51123.

(Ref. 8CD218/2...

**LONDON OFFICE 13 Hill Street, W1X 8DL Tel: 01-629 7282**

ESSEX/SUFFOLK BORDER.—residential water mill with original features in beautifully secluded grounds of 7½ acres with mill pool. 3 large rec., cloakroom, domestic offices, 6 bed., bathroom and shower room. Double garage. Around £35,000. (Ref. 7181.) G. J. Turner & Son, Sudbury, Suffolk CO10 6AE. (Tel.: Sudbury 72833/4.)

OFFICES

CAMDEN TOWN. 2/3 well carpeted and furnished offices to let. Approx. 450 sq. ft. Enquiries 01-686 1770 after 4 p.m.

STRAND 700 SQ. FT.—Rent free to 1976 in return for some decorations. Further details 240 2982.

PROPERTY ABROAD

COSTA BRAVA

Further details ring: 01-446 0464

DORDOGNE.—The Presbytere of Montaut, 2 miles Issegeac, 9 miles Bergerac. Facing south, with 20 mile views in all directions, 6 beds., 3 reception rooms. Water, electricity. 1.3 acre. £10,750, no dollar premium.—Tel. 01-491 2606.

OFFICES

SECOND FLOOR OFFICE, Euston Road, near Great Portland Street. 408 sq. ft. Rent £2,650 p.a. excl. No premium. Tel.: 388 1966.

COUNTRY FLAT...

BACHELOR EXECU...

OR GOLF CRAN...

room, sauna room, room, kitchen, cloakroom sell fully furnished or wise. Must sell quickly. In the region of £30,0...

Wentworth 4258

BUILDING SITES

By direction of the Estate Governors of Alleyn's College of God's Gift

# DULWICH, S.E.21

## 4 Residential Building Sites for Sale

with planning permission (prior to White Paper)

Site 1. 3 houses and 6 bungalows
Site 2. 4 flats and 8 maisonettes
Site 3. 4 flats
Site 4. 2 detached houses

*For further details apply to the Sole Agents to The Estate Governors (ref: RD...*

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# SAVILLS

## KENT

miles North West of Ashford. Charing Cross about 1 hour.

Historic Manor House dating from 1550's with later addition. The subject of a Country Life article. Oak panelled drawing room, dining room, total of 6 bedrooms and 3 bathrooms, including self contained wing. Oil-fired central heating. Double garage, garden and 2 paddocks. £47,500.

HATCHERING & COLYER, Bank Street, Ashford, Kent. Tel: Ashford 24561. SAVILLS, London Office, Tel: 01-499 8644.

## BUCKINGHAMSHIRE—Iver Heath

*Langley Station 3 miles, Paddington 30 minutes; London 19 miles.*

Delightful Regency house with fine timbered and shrub garden off quiet lane on edge of Langley Park. 3 reception rooms, 5 bedrooms, 3 bathrooms, kitchen/breakfast room/playroom, oil-fired central heating, self-contained staff flat, outbuildings, garaging for 2 and about 2½ acres. Offers in the region of £67,000.

SAVILLS, London Office. Tel: 01-499 8644.

## HAMPSHIRE—Itchen Valley

*Winchester 2 miles, Basingstoke 16 miles.*

Delightful fully modernised cottage dating from the 1700's, fronting quiet lane. 3 reception rooms, 4 bedrooms, 2 bathrooms, central heating, double garage, garden.

SAVILLS, London Office. Tel: 01-499 8644.

## NORTH COTSWOLDS

*Bourton-on-the-water 3 miles, Stow-on-the-Wold 4 miles.*

Delightful fully modernised period stone house on the village edge overlooking Slaughter Brook. 3 reception rooms, 6 bedrooms, 3 bathrooms, central heating, excellent stable block with 6 boxes, garden, paddock. About 2 acres.

SAVILLS, London Office, Tel: 01-499 8644

## SURREY

Off the Hogs Back close to Seale

*Guildford Station 7 miles, Waterloo 38 minutes*

Delightful secluded family house of great character built of genuine Tudor materials in an idyllic woodland setting gardens mainly stocked with rare shrubs, requirig little maintenance. 3 reception rooms, 6 bedrooms, 3 bathrooms, central heating, garaging for 2, gardens and grounds. About 12 Acres. Offers around £60,000.

SAVILLS, London Office. Tel: 01-499 8644.

## NORFOLK

*Norwich 6 miles.*

Substantial and most attractive late Georgian country house. 3 reception rooms, playroom, 5 bedrooms and 3 bathrooms. Large self-contained flat (hall and 5 rooms), oil-fired central heating, modernised staff cottage, extensive outbuildings, delightful garden and 10 acres of commercially grown strawberries and ...s producing good income. The ... about 19 acres.

SAVILLS, 8/10 Upper King Street, Norwich. Tel: (0603) 29121.

## NORFOLK

*8 miles north of Norwich.*

Fine Tudor Manor House in traditional parkland setting with long river frontage. 3 reception rooms, 7 bedrooms, 3 bathrooms, 3 attic bedrooms, oil-fired central heating, 3-bedroomed lodge cottage. Coach house with planning permission for conversion of first floor to flat and further outbuildings. Garden and grounds of approximately 17 acres. Offers in the region of £65,000 or a lower figure excluding the cottage or parkland.

SAVILLS, 8/10 Upper King Street, Norwich. Tel: (0603) 612211.

## SOUTH NORFOLK

*12 miles Norwich.*

Peacefully situated late Georgian Country residence. 4 reception rooms, 5 bedrooms, 3 bathrooms, oil-fired central heating. Self-contained flat. Modernised lodge cottage. Good outbuildings including garaging for 3 cars. Greenhouses, gardens and grounds of approximately 4½ acres. Further land may be made available by negotiation.

SAVILLS, 8-10 Upper King Street, Norwich, Norfolk. Tel: (0603) 2912.

## NORFOLK-SUFFOLK BORDER

*Station 5 miles*

...ming 17th century small country ... 2 reception rooms, 5 bedrooms, 2 bathrooms, dairy. Full ...ed central heating. Outside ...s room, barn, several stables, garages. Delightful timbered ...nds including paddock and moat. approximately 5½ acres.

SAVILLS, 8/10 Upper King Street, Norwich, Norfolk. Tel: (0603) 29121.

## ESSEX

*Witham Station 2 miles, Liverpool Street 40 minutes.*

Georgian house occupying a superb rural position with south-west views over parkland. 3 reception rooms, 6 bedrooms, bathroom, garage, stables, paddocks, walled garden and fine trees. 16½ Acres.

SAVILLS, 136 London Road, Chelmsford, Essex. Tel: (0245) 69311.

## NORTH-EAST SUFFOLK

*Saxmundham 9 miles, connecting trains to Ipswich, 75 minutes Liverpool Street, Norwich.*

Exceptionally fine William and Mary house in a completely rural setting overlooking its own paddocks, described as one of the finest small listed country houses in Suffolk. 4 reception rooms, 5 bedrooms, bathroom, 4 loose boxes, easily maintained garden and 4 paddocks. About 7 acres.

SAVILLS, London Office. Tel: 01-499 8644.

**SAVILLS** 20 Grosvenor Hill, Berkeley Square, London W1X 0HQ
Telephone 01-499 8644 Telex 263796

# Hampton & Sons

**SOLD PRIOR TO AUCTION ON 17th APRIL, 1975**
**THE OLD HOUSE, WINCHCOMBE, GLOS.**

## BETWEEN EAST GRINSTEAD AND TUNBRIDGE WELLS

...village of Hartfield.
SECLUDED COUNTRY HOUSE IN 6 ACRES PARK-LIKE GROUNDS.
...ting weather tiled Wealden Style. ...nt family accommodation: Hall, 3 reception, breakfast room, cloakroom, kitchen; bedroom/...; room suite, 4 further bedrooms, 3 additional ...rooms if required. Gas C.H. Double garage. FREEHOLD. Newly in the market. Offers invited. (FDH)

## NR. MAIDSTONE, KENT

EXOTIC COMBINATION OF TIMBERED FARM AND BUILDINGS
...ng sophisticated modern recreational facilities ...ash court, indoor swimming pool, gymnasium, billiard room, recreation lounge. Accommodation includes 4/6 bedrooms, 2 main bathrooms, 3 ...n rooms, breakfasting kitchen. Grounds include ... and paddock. Garage with staff flat. FREEHOLD FOR SALE. (RAM).

## ESSEX

Chelmsford 3 miles.
A VERY FINE EARLY GEORGIAN HOUSE WITH TUDOR ORIGINS IN DELIGHTFUL PARKLAND SETTING.

5 principal bedrooms, 3 further bedrooms, 4 bathrooms, 4 reception rooms. C.H. Excellent outbuildings including Essex barn. Heated swimming pool. Tennis court. Gardens and grounds of about 10 acres. OFFERS INVITED FOR THE FREEHOLD. Joint Sole Agents: James Benham & Co., Chelmsford 62266, and Hampton & Sons (SEP).

## ABINGER, NR. DORKING

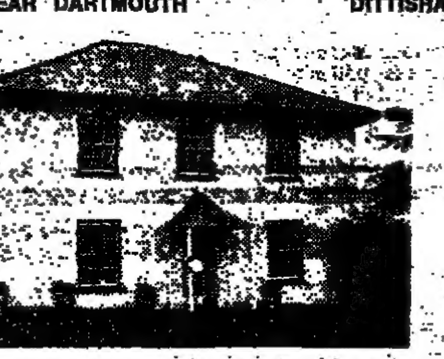
COMPACT RESIDENTIAL ESTATE 62 ACRES. ENTIRELY SHELTERED BY VAST WOODS. A Queen Anne Style modern house.

6 bed. and dressing rooms, 4 bathrooms, 4 reception, 3-roomed flat. Complete C.H. 3 cottages (2 let, 1 service). Picturesque courtyard. Range of stables, barn and garage. Splendid garden, paddock, farmland (vacant if required) and woodland. Valuable sporting rights over adjacent Manor lands. Freehold for sale, as whole or in units. (FDH.)

01-493 8222 6, Arlington Street, St. James's, London, S.W.1

# Cluttons

**NEAR DARTMOUTH** **DITTISHAM**



Attractive period house in a superb situation over the River Dart with deepwater at all times for yacht moorings.

...eception Rooms, 4 Bedrooms, Bathroom, Kitchen, etc. ...le Garage, Old Stable and Greenhouse, IN ALL ABOUT ... For Sale by Private Treaty.

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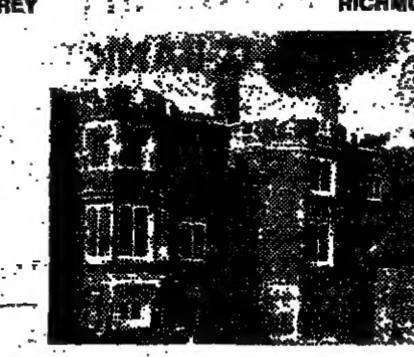

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*Delightful Bungalow* in own garden, 4 large bedrooms, living room with inglenook fireplace and French door leading into garden. Good sized kitchen with pantry. Boxroom, bathroom, garage.

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## S. LANCING— NR. WORTHING

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Completely detached. 4 miles coast. Lounge, dining room, kitchen, 5 beds., bathroom, 2 toilets. Mains water and electricity. Excellent views. Approx. 900 sq. yds. land.

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Main portion of fine Georgian country mansion built in Kentish ragstone and standing in park-like setting adjoining large 300-acre estate. Easy reach Tonbridge and Tunbridge Wells and 37 miles London. Good riding country. Drive approach. Charming interior full of character. Entrance hall. Cloakroom. Elegant drawing room 30ft. x 21ft. Charming dining room. Garden room or study. Fitted kitchen and excellent cellars with wine cellar and workshop. 6/7 bedrooms. Bathroom. Shower room. Oil-fired C.H. Double garage. Further garage which could be converted to stabling with groom's room over. Lovely grounds with specimen trees, orchard and paddock; nearly 10 acres. Ideal for those seeking peace and tranquillity. Just in the market at realistic price.

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Extremely fine detached property in quiet country lane near Golf Course. ½ mile to station. Only 30 mins. by road or rail to West End. M40 access 2 miles. Luxuriously appointed in keeping with neighbourhood properties. The homes of many famous TV, Film and Stage personalities. Sweeping drive approach. Beautiful garden of 1 acre extending to woodland. Entrance hall. Cloakroom. Magnificent lounge. Dining room. Breakfast room. Superbly fitted kitchen. TV room/study. 5 bedrooms. 3 luxury bathrooms (1 en suite). Utility room. Separate W.Cs. Central heating. Detached garage would convert to separate living accommodation. An exceptional property in one of the most sought-after areas in the country at a very realistic price. Offers in region of £55,000.

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AUCTION—9th MAY

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£37,500
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£27,000

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Maidstone 5 miles
Nr. West Malling, convenient for M20.

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now forming a Luxury Residence. 3/4 bedrooms, 2 bathrooms, 2 reception, breakfast room, cloakroom, luxury kitchen, main services, gas fired C.H., double garage, garden with stream about ½ acre. *Price freehold* £49,250. Ibbett, Mosely, Card & Co. Sevenoaks (Tel. 52246).

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Stow-on-the-Wold 3½ miles, Kingham 3½ miles (main line station to Paddington in 1hr 35 mins.). A truly enchanting *Detached Period Stone Cottage* residence in one of the most picturesque small Cotswold villages. Hall, drawing room, dining room, kitchen, utility room, w.c., 4 bedrooms, bathroom, separate w.c., part electric c.h., single garage, beautiful gardens. AUCTION 29th APRIL, 1975 (unless sold previously). Auctioneer: ROGER K. HANDS, Aldsworth, Glos. Tel. (045 184) 403.

SUSSEX DOWNS. In the heart of the Sussex Downs (Eastbourne 7 miles), country house of great character in peaceful setting. 6 beds., 3 rec., usual offices; garage, outbuildings; about 3 acres. Offers in excess of £40,000. Details from Clifford Dann & Partners, 45 South Street, Eastbourne. Tel. (0323) 37201.

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in an attractive rural yet accessible position

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ABOUT 17½ ACRES. Possibility of additional land available if required.

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Enjoying a quiet rural setting with attractive views.
*Tonbridge 4 miles. Sevenoaks 7 miles. London 32 miles.*

**AN ELEGANT PERIOD MANOR HOUSE**

dating from the 17th Century with south front added in the late Georgian era.
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Three country cottages.
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*Battle 2 miles, Hastings 7 miles, London 57 miles.*
LOT 1. AN INTENSIVE MIXED FARMING UNIT *incorporating an excellent small shoot.*
Pair of single storey cottages each with Lounge, Dining Room, Kitchen, 2/3 Bedrooms, Bathroom. Comprehensive range of buildings. Turkey fattening houses, covered yards, implement shed, farrowing houses, 40 fattening pens, deep litter houses. Dutch Barns and ancillary buildings. Free draining arable land and 43 acres of mainly Chestnut Coppice and young plantation
IN ALL ABOUT 108 ACRES. TC 2044
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## KENT

*Tonbridge 5 miles, Sevenoaks 5 miles, London 31 miles.*
A XVTH CENTURY HALL HOUSE
(Grade II) exceptionally well preserved and in delightful rural surroundings
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Garages with office and potential flat.
Beautiful gardens, grounds, paddock.
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(Staff cottage in the village available in addition, if required.)
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*2 miles Wadhurst main line station. Tunbridge Wells 6 miles.*
A CHARMING AND SUPERBLY CONVERTED OAST HOUSE
*Entrance hall, lounge/sitting room, dining room* fully fitted kitchen, 4 bedrooms, 2 bathrooms. Full central heating. Double garage.
Gardens of 1¼ Acres.
FREEHOLD £59,000 to include ground floor fitted carpets.
The above accommodation includes a separate wing of living room, bedroom, bathroom and separate W.C.
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Ground floor flat of a detached residence (with potential for conversion and modernisation). Licensed clubhouse with bar lounge. Yard/Car park, shipwrights shop, 170ft. quay/water frontage with petrol and diesel pumps, crane, slipway to river, 12 moorings, 1 deep water mooring.
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LOT 2. Valuable site and detailed planning consent for single storey dwelling. 4 ACRES.
LOT 3. 3 bedroomed Cottage suitable for further improvement with adjoining arable land 11½ ACRES.
LOT 4. Productive area of arable land. 36 ACRES.
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## University of Newcastle upon Tyne

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(b) IN ANY FACULTY

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Applications are now invited from graduates, prospective graduates, or holders of equivalent qualifications, for the following Fellowships:—
(a) One, donated by Walter Runciman & Co. Ltd., for research into Sea and Land Transport.
(b) Two, to be held in any Faculty, for research in subjects relevant to the well-being and development of the North of England.

The value of the Fellowships will be £880 per annum, together with remission of fees and student society fees.

Further particulars and application forms may be obtained from the Registrar, University of Newcastle upon Tyne, 6 Kensington Terrace, Newcastle upon Tyne, NE1 7RU, to whom completed forms must be returned by 31st May, 1975.

## University of Nottingham

DEPARTMENT OF INDUSTRIAL ECONOMICS

**RESEARCH FELLOWSHIP**

Applications are invited for the appointment of a Research Fellow to conduct a Social Audit on a large locally-based company. The appointment will be for one year and preference will be given to candidates with a good honours degree in economics and some industrial experience.

A capacity for getting on well with people—management and shop-floor—is essential. Salary in the range £2,118 to [illegible]. Closing date 12th May.

Application forms from the Staff Appointments Officer, UNIVERSITY OF NOTTINGHAM, University Park, Nottingham NG7 2RD. Ref. [illegible]

## Bedford College

(University of London)

**UNA ELLIS-FERMOR MEMORIAL RESEARCH FUND**

Grants, up to a limit of £200, will be awarded for assistance towards the publication of scholarly work in the field of English, Irish or Scandinavian Drama or a comparative study in which English, Irish or Scandinavian Drama is a component.

Further particulars from the Registrar, Bedford College, Regent's Park, London NW1 4NS. Closing date for applications, 31st May, 1975.

STUDENTSHIPS

## UNIVERSITY OF LONDON
## CENTRE OF INTERNATIONAL AND AREA STUDIES
## LEVERHULME POSTGRADUATE STUDENTSHIPS IN AREA STUDIES

The Leverhulme Trust Fund has offered the Centre of International and Area Studies of the University of London a fund to establish seven 1-year postgraduate studentships, each worth £[illegible] (London) or £880 (outside London), plus academic fees. These awards are intended for students who have undergraduate degrees in the Humanities or the Social Sciences, and who wish to specialise at the Masters Level in Area Studies in one of the following regions:

South Asia, South East Asia, Far East, Latin America

Further information and application forms available from the Secretary, Centre of International and Area Studies, 15 Woburn Square, London WC1H 0NS.

The closing date for applications is 18th April, 1975.

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THE TIMES

## University of London

**METCALFE STUDENTSHIP FOR WOMEN**

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## University of Southampton

**SURFACE PHYSICS**

Applications are invited for a post-doctoral Research Fellowship for work on the interaction of electron beams with clean metal and semiconductor surfaces.

Further details may be obtained from Dr. B. J. Hopkins, Physics Department, University, Southampton.

COURSES

## University of Bristol

**STUDIES IN THE ART AND ARCHITECTURE OF THE WEST COUNTRY**

A residential Summer School to be held in the University of Bristol from 10th-25th July, 1975.

Full particulars from STAFF TUTOR IN FINE ARTS, Department of Extra-Mural Studies, 32 Tyndalls Park Road, Bristol, BS8 1HR.

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Apply in writing, before 5th May, 1975, quoting Reference T with full details of qualifications and industrial or commercial experience, to: Professor Roland Smith, Department of Management Sciences, University of Manchester Institute of Sciences and Technology, Sackville Street, Manchester M60 1QD.

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She, and it has to be a she, will report to the Personnel Director. Her job is to co-ordinate the work already being carried out in this area by the line personnel departments, to undertake special projects and in particular, prepare the company for forthcoming changes in employment law and accelerate the development programmes for female staff. *Several names spring to mind* for this job, but in case we have missed anyone, the requirement is for a graduate, aged 30-40, IPM member, and able to knock any prejudices for six. Salary range is £5,500 to £7,000 with a company car.

Please apply in confidence giving brief details and quoting reference 1568/TT.

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**c£3,500**

We are looking for a management-minded PA to se
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The Secretariat will provide a full secretarial service
the hotel, hotel guests and conferences. As many
the guests will be from Europe, it is essential that yo
are fluent, with Secretarial skills, in either French
German, as well as in English. And because you w
be running the service, it is also essential that yo
have experience of controlling secretarial staff in
corporate environment. Above all, you will be th
kind of person who enjoys the challenge of respons
bility and who has a flair for organization and dealir
with people. It is unlikely that a person under 23 ha
sufficient maturity and experience for this position.
This is an excellent, if demanding, career opportunit
which must be filled immediately.

To arrange an interview, please conta
Miss Margaret Dunlop on 01-491 3970
soon as possible.

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require a

## SECRETARY AT WATERLOO

The recently formed FINANCE CORPORATION FOR INDUSTRY department which is concerned with the financing of UK Companies needs a secretary to work for two senior executives. She must have an 'A' level standard of education and a formal secretarial training and previous experience in the financial sector would be an advantage. Age 22 plus. The duties include preparing correspondence and reports (sometimes on audio equipment) and working as part of a team involved in high level and prestigious negotiations.

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Please telephone Helen Hadley on 01-928 7822, or write to her at 91 Waterloo Road, London SE1 8XP.

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The successful applicant will assist a Dutch Lawyer and be capable of acting as a basic Interpreter/Secretary. She will also be required to supervise the records and library activities of the section concerned.

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**by a Surveyor/Property Owner/Farmer**

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Private Company requires lady of mature outlook to
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Previous experience not essential but applicants
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Send brief resume to Box 1760 M, The Times

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An interesting opportunity has arisen in the Finance Department of this major research institute for a young lady to supervise the machine room and assist with two-year changeover to Nixdorf 880/45 mini-computer. Experience of computerised procedure to trial balance standard. Salary range £2,500-£3,000. Five weeks' holiday. Pension Scheme.

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Competent Secretary required to work for two Corporate Finance Executives of leading Investment Bank. Should be aged about 24-23. Good appearance and manner essential, previous experience in a bank preferable. Friendly atmosphere in modern building. Generous salary and good fringe benefits.

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The Chairman of many companies. Situated in his private
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as well as a lot of personal work.

or

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Ages 28-35 01-62

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to the
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Responsibility for co-
and running of mark
vices unit, research,
ideas and promotion
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graduate with relev
ground in P.R., and
allied fields.

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01-499 540

**Read "La creme de la crem every Wednesday make it a date!**

# Secretarial and General Appointments also on page 27

## SECRETARIAL

### IMPERIAL CHEMICAL INDUSTRIES LTD.

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Please contact: Miss D. E. Leaver, Head Office Staff Section, IC House, Millbank, London, S.W.1.

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# Appointments Vacant also on pages 5 and 24

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P.S. Readers. If your home needs a service, don't do a thing until you turn to the Home Service Classification.

# Broadcasting

What promises to be an exciting and frighteningly real new series starts tonight: Survivors (BBC1 8.10), written by the Daleks creator but much more down to earth than Dr Who. Sportsnight (BBC1 10.5) features the England and Cyprus football match and One Man's Week (BBC2 10.15) follows seven days in the life of cartoonist Bill Tidy. If you are seeking humour avoid My Old Man (ITV 8.0) which is downright dull and The Wackers (ITV 9.30) which is simply crude. Last of the Summer Wine (BBC1 9.35), however, should provide a few chuckles. The Tomorrow People (ITV 4.50) is an amusing teatime romp.—T.S.

### BBC 1

...pm, Day and Night. 12.55, ... 1.00, Pebble Mill. 1.45, Fingerbobs. 4.00, Play ... 4.25, Boris the Bold. Jackanory. 4.50, The Mon... 5.15, If You Were Me. Magic Roundabout. News. Nationwide; News.

### BBC 2

6.40-7.55 am, Open University: The Sense Organs. 7.05, Zone Fossils. 7.30, Entropy. 11.00-11.25, Play School. 5.00-7.05 pm, Open University: School and Society. 5.25, R. M. Schindler. 5.50, Reading Development. 6.15, Chicago's Transport. 6.40, ...

### Thames

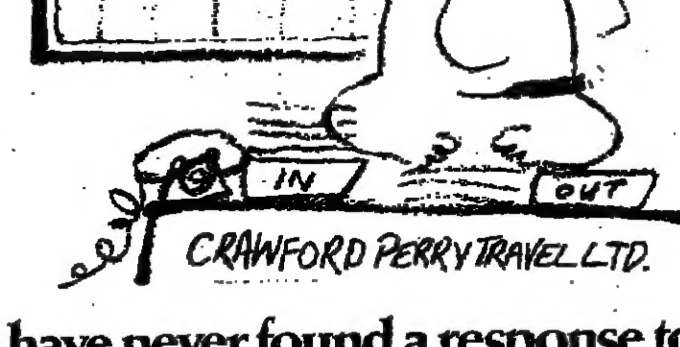
10.00 am, Wildlife Theatre. Around the Bay. 10.25, Cartoon. 10.30, The Saint. 11.20, Galloping Gourmet, with Graham Kerr. 11.45, Larry the Lamb. 12.00, Hickory House. 12.15 pm, Rupert. 12.30, Mr and Mrs. 1.00, First Report. 1.20, Lunchtime Today. 1.30, Crown ...

### ATV

11.30 am, Mr Piper. 12.00, Thames. 5.20, ATV Today. 5.50, News. 6.00, ATV Today. 6.35, Thames. 8.30, Kung Fu. 9.30, Thames. 10.40, Wrestling. 11.25, Father Paschal, Weather.

### Southern

11.15 am, Hammy Hamster. ...




## "We have never found a response to equal that of The Times."

We have taken the above extract from a letter we received from Crawford Perry Travel Ltd., Victoria Street, London.

Regular advertising subscribers to The Times, Crawford Perry wrote to congratulate us on the high standard of service we have given them over the last four years.

In the past, they have experimented with other advertising media, but the response to their advertising has never been equalled by the response to that in The Times, with the result that they now place their advertising, almost exclusively, in the Holidays & Villas section of the Personal Columns.

Moreover, with The Times' rates having remained very competitive over the years, Crawford Perry feel The Times is the most cost-effective medium through which to reach their potential customers.

Advertise in The Times. Where it pays you to advertise.

For further information and advertising details, ring 01-278 5351. In the North – Manchester – 061-834 1234.

THE TIMES

(continued on page 32)

# PERSONAL COLUMNS

ALSO ON PAGE 31



## DEATHS

## BIRTHS

## MARRIAGES

## The Times Crossword Puzzle No 13,969

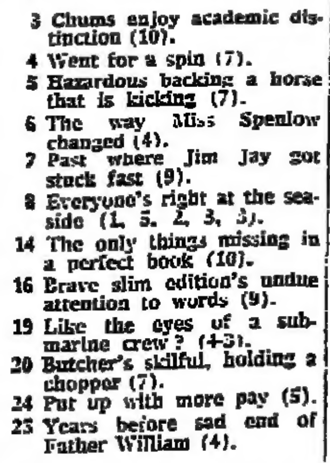
ACROSS

1 Estate agent booked? (3, 3)
9 Lonely heart maybe? (9).
10 He told tales of the river to the sea returning (5).
11 Opportune meeting with young cowgirl in open court (5).
12 Follow to the end (4).
13 Him Sun-god me Goddess (4).
15 Amended clerical control of *The Times*? (7).
17 Newcastle type of guinea (7).
18 Being turned aside makes Catherine die perhaps? (7).
20 Continue to flirt (5, 2).
21 Terrible—Scott's hero lost somewhere in Plymouth (4).
23 Venerable Adam? (4).
24 Painter losing little house keeps this garden (5).
26 Nocturnal bumper (5).
27 Period neckwear from Sunday to Saturday (9).
28 Characters of trained men are forged by the sea (13).

DOWN

1 Pinch Mr Right's girl friend, say? (14).
2 Composition restricting trawlermen (5).
3 Chums enjoy academic distinction (10).
4 Went for a spin (7).
5 Hazardous backing a horse that is kicking (7).
6 The way Miss Spenlow changed (4).
7 Pact where Jim Jay got stuck fast (9).
8 Everyone's right at the seaside (1, 5, 2, 3, 3).
14 The only things missing in a perfect book (10).
16 Brave slim edition's unable attention to words (9).
19 Like the eyes of a submarine crew? (4-3).
20 Butcher's skilful, holding a chopper (7).
24 Put up with more pay (5).
25 Years before sad end of Father William (4).

Solution of Puzzle No 13,968



## ANNOUNCEMENTS

### U.K. COMPANIES ENTERING THE U.S. MARKET

The American Embassy in London is sponsoring, on behalf of the National Association of State Development Agencies, Washington, D.C., a one day seminar on "Corporate Opportunities in the U.S.A.", to be held on May 2nd at the Royal Lancaster Hotel, London. It is intended for Senior Businessmen who are primarily, but not exclusively, from manufacturing industry.

The objectives of the Seminar are:

1 To provide an up-to-date briefing on the U.S. Administration's attitude towards direct investment in the U.S.A. by foreign companies.
2 To provide background information about the U.S. economy.
3 To describe in detail the services and advice available to foreign investors before, during and after the completion of the investment project.
4 To create an opportunity for participants to meet and discuss with the representatives of individual State Development Agencies and NASDA, the prospects for investment in their areas.

The fee for this Seminar is £20 per head. For a registration form and further details, please telephone Sally Grassland at Conference Services Limited. 01-499 1101.

### THE CREAM IN YOUR COFFEE?

WHILE YOU'RE SIPPING YOUR COFFEE TAKE A LOOK AT THE CREAM OF OUR JOBS IN THE TIMES

La Creme de la Creme

APPEARS EVERY WEDNESDAY

Top executive and secretarial jobs

Your won't find anything there under £2,600

For more details ring:

THE TIMES APPOINTMENTS TEAM

01-278 9161

### LONG-TERM FOSTER HOME

*urgently needed for Brian, 5½ years, who cannot be cared for by his mother and is at present in a short-term reception centre.* He is a charming, sturdy child with a sense of humour who needs the security...

### CYPRUS

Women Walk Home

### CANCER RESEARCH

### CANCER RESEARCH

## ANNOUNCEMENTS

### THE CHEST AND HEART ASSOCIATION

SPONSORS RESEARCH AND HELPS those who suffer from Chest, Heart and Stroke Illnesses.

Please send a donation or make a bequest in your will.

The Chest and Heart Association, Dept. T, Tavistock House North, London WC1H 9JE.

H. R. HIGGINS (Coffee-Man) Ltd., 42 South Molton St., London, W.1. announce new postal charges beginning 21st April, 1975. Orders 5lb coffee sent post free to customers within United Kingdom.

## RESTAURANTS

### APHRODITE'S

DINE AND DANCE TILL 2 a.m.

and enjoy superb entertainment including Sundays

STAR CABARET NIGHTLY

Starring

THE VERNONS

Popular Singing Group

We are now open for executive luncheons in our ground floor restaurant 12.30 to 3.00 pm. £5 plus VAT.

23 Piccadilly, Mayfair, W.1. Reservations: 01-495 1767/8.

### CAROL'S FRESH SEAFOOD RESTAURANT

OYSTER BAR & SELECTION OF PASTA & MEAT DISHES

Surprisingly inexpensive!—approx. £2.50 per head.

12 Blenheim Terrace, N.W.8 off Abbey Road, St. John's Wood

Open 12-2.30; 6-11.45 daily. RESERVATIONS: 328 1-2 2019.

TAGORE, London's only Indian restaurant offering cabaret including live sitar music ... Brunswick Shopping Centre, off Russell Sq., W.C.1. 837 9568

## CLUB ANNOUNCEMENTS

Organised by the real professionals—copied by the expert amateurs.

### THE GASLIGHT

(A Gentleman's Club) of St. James's offer

*Live tantalising Cabaret every 20 mins.
*Sensational Dollybirds.
*Hours of danceable, talkable girls.

All at prices that won't spoil your fun.

No membership required for out of town or overseas visitors.

### CHAPLINS

### BRISTOL SUITE

## UK HOLIDAYS

### COMBE GROVE HOTEL

## HOLIDAYS AND VILLAS

### THIS MONTH'S THOMSON BEST BUYS

We've cut down on the brochure price of these Winter Holidays if booked during April. See your travel agent or ring Thomson Holidays.

PRAGUE FROM LUTON. 4 nights departing 18th April. NOW for £47 or 3 nights 21st April NOW for £51.

BENIDORM FROM EAST MIDLANDS: 3 nights to the Hotels Poseidon or Bermar, departing 19th and 26th April. NOW for £36.

THOMSON HOLIDAYS

Prices include fuel and currency cost changes but are subject to availability. ATOL 152BC

### BEST VALUE IN FARES WE'RE No 1 LOWEST RELIABLE DISCOUNT SCHEDULED AIRFARES

to 119 worldwide destinations (plus ABC flights to North America). For our free 48-page brochure giving full details, phone 01-584 5917 or 01-584 5103 (24 hour/7 day Ansafone) or write to: U.K. and International Office

WORLD EXPEDITIONARY ASSOCIATION

45 Brompton Road, Knightsbridge, London, S.W.3.

### HELP US!

To help you—travel or holidays SAFELY and ECONOMICALLY. Flights to all destinations. Package holidays. World-wide hotel bookings. CORFU 2 weeks all incl. from £95.

Water-ski, W/end in U.K. Camping Tours. Travel Agencies in Europe, Australia and U.K.

HAYMARKET TRAVEL LTD., Phone 01-839 6958/9/0. First Floor, 51-52 Haymarket, London, S.W.1. OPEN MON.-SAT. INCLUSIVE

### LEAVE ON FRIDAY FOR LINDOS-RHODES

ONE WEEK £69

TWO WEEKS £89

Accommodation in staffed villas. Free use of sailing and rowing boats and all food included.

Tel.: 01-589 5478.

JOHN MORGAN TRAVEL

30 Thurloe Place, London, S.W.7. ATOL 032 B

### FLY: IT COSTS LESS FOR MORE

### PANORAMA PARIS

### WHITSUN HOLIDAYS

### LAS PALMAS, TENERIFE OR LANZAROTE?

## HOLIDAYS AND VILLAS

### GREECE AND TUNISIA IMMEDIATE BOOKINGS!

We still have some really first class Tunisian Holidays available for this summer. Send for full colour brochure and book now to avoid disappointment. From £65 in Hammamet, Sousse, Djerba and Monastir.

Orpheus are specialists on Greek Holidays. Our prices for Athens and the Greek Islands of Spetse, Hydra and Mykonos start at an amazing £...

Ring now: 01-734 0251 01-437 3223

Orpheus Holidays, 23 Queens House, Leicester Place, Leicester Square, London W.C.2.

A Government Bonded Operator ATOL 703B

### AMSTERDAM by NATIONAL EXPRESS

from £15.75 return

By coach from London via Dover-Zeebrugge Thurs. and Fri. evgs, return Sats. and Suns. Short holidays, extended day excursions (also to Rotterdam, The Hague), Bulbfields Tours.

Fares: London-Amsterdam, Extended Day Return Adult, £15.75; Student, £11.50; Period Return Adult, £17.00; Student, £15.00. Connecting coaches from most parts of Britain. Ask your National Travel agent or National Travel (South East) Ltd., Victoria Coach Station, London SW1W 9TP. Tel.: 01-730 0202.

### SPRING AND SUMMER HOLIDAYS

MOROCCO from £70

TUNISIA from £74

ALGERIA from £107

LONDON EXPRESS SERVICES LTD., 185 Kensington High Street, London, W.8. Tel.: 01-937 8070/4670. ABTA—ATOL 444B

### TRAVELAIR

INTERNATIONAL LOW COST TRAVEL

Specialists in late bookings to Africa, Australia, Far East, New Zealand. Considerable saving on fares.

TRAVELAIR International Low Cost Travel, 2nd Floor, 40 Great Marlborough St., London W1V 1DA. Tel. 01-437 6016/7 or 01-434 7306 CAA ATOL 109D

### MONEY SAVERS

### SOUTH AFRICA AUSTRALIA NEW ZEALAND

### LOW FARES GUARANTEED

### KENYA KENYA KENYA SPECIALISTS

### WHEN FLYING

### GREECE & SPAIN BY AIR FROM £55 & £36

## HOLIDAYS AND VILLAS

### CORFU—The Enchanted Island

Unlike many other popular resorts Corfu is still a very beautiful and unspoilt island, inhabited by the most charming and friendly people imaginable. All our villas are on the north-east coast—thankfully ignored over by Durrell in his many books written about Corfu. All villas include in the cost maid service, and in many cases English cordon bleu cook, use of our private waterskiing and riding schools. Also taverna holidays, the ideal way to see Greece the inexpensive way, price including half-board at any of the local restaurants £119-£200 per person, 2 weeks, including scheduled Heathrow day-flight. Vacancies throughout the season.

CORFU VILLAS LTD.

168 Walton Street, London SW3

01-581 0851 (589 9481 24-hour answering service)

ATOL 337B ABTA

### LOVED CORFU BUT HATED THE CROWDS?

Try Zante. The southernmost island of the Corfu chain. It has the same balmy climate, green hills, wild flowers and lovely beaches and is not yet the haunt of the smart set. We are offering a complete holiday package (half-board) in two super hotels, both situated on the edge of the sea, at very competitive prices. Ask for our colour brochure which gives comprehensive details of this lovely island, together with two other Greek islands you may not be familiar with.

SUNMED HOLIDAYS

157 Kensington High Street, London W8

Telephone 01-937 3607 (24-hour service)

*Government Bonded Operator: ATOL 382B*

### SUMMER WITH SUPERTRAVEL

Before you make your summer holiday plans you must see our programme of high-quality hotel holidays in places such as:—

CORFU and CRETE

Other destinations include the Algarve, Morocco, France, Italy, Madeira, Majorca and Turkey. First-class hotels and scheduled flights.

*Send for our colour brochure today:—*

SUPERTRAVEL LIMITED

22 Hans Place, London, S.W.1. Telephone: 01-589 5161

ABTA member. ATOL 322 B

### CRETE 19TH APRIL

No surcharges and 80°F. Converted windmill, private pool, sleeps 4/6. £102 p.p. 2 weeks incl.

Villa Mivos, Agios Nicolaos, sleeps 4/6, £100 p.p. 2 wks incl.

Villa party. Interesting people to join unorganized fun holiday. Private pool, 2 wks. £95.

Hotels and Tavernas from £55. Fly from Heathrow to the sun by phoning 637 2148/656 5713.

COSMOPOLITAN HOLIDAYS, 296 Regent St., London, W.1.

### SCHEDULED RELIABILITY

Low cost reliable airfares to most destinations including Australia, New Zealand, South Africa. Many varied and interesting stopovers en route.

NAT. FLIGHT DECK

181 Earls Court Rd., S.W.5. 01-370 6497/8/9 (Airline Agents)

### SOME LIKE IT HOT

### JUMBO FOR TRAVEL

### HALF PRICE HOLIDAYS

(continued on page 31)

DO YOU COMMUTE, or do you wish to commute? If you do, look out for The Times Commuter Homes feature on Friday... through this special feature.—Phone 01-278 9351 for more details (plus an extra 10 per cent discount).

ZELLA and Phil Greenwood exhibitions.—See Art Exhibitions.

CLIVE MARTIN good solicitor at last. Love J.W.B.

CAMDEN TOWN. Furnished offices to let.—See Offices.

SAVE £££'s on office equipment. Slough & Son. Sales & Wants.

FURNITURE manufacturer has capacity. See Business Opportunities.

ST MARY'S SCHOOL requires Domestic Bursar & Matron. See Pub. & Ed. Apts.

TASTEFULLY FURNISHED FLAT required by American gentleman—See Property Wanted.







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